<月刊プリンセス掲載> PRINCESS COMICS

Ultimate Venus

by Shigematsu Takako

Ultimate Venus

VOLUME:1

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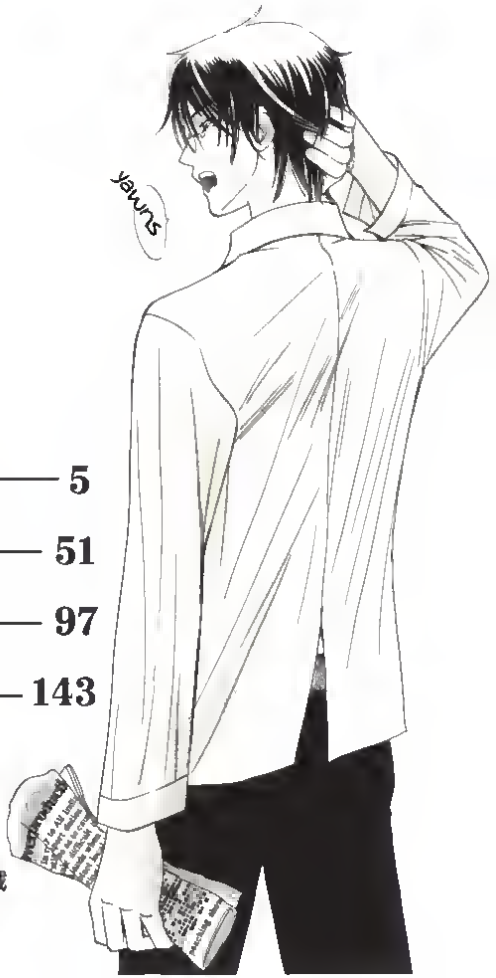

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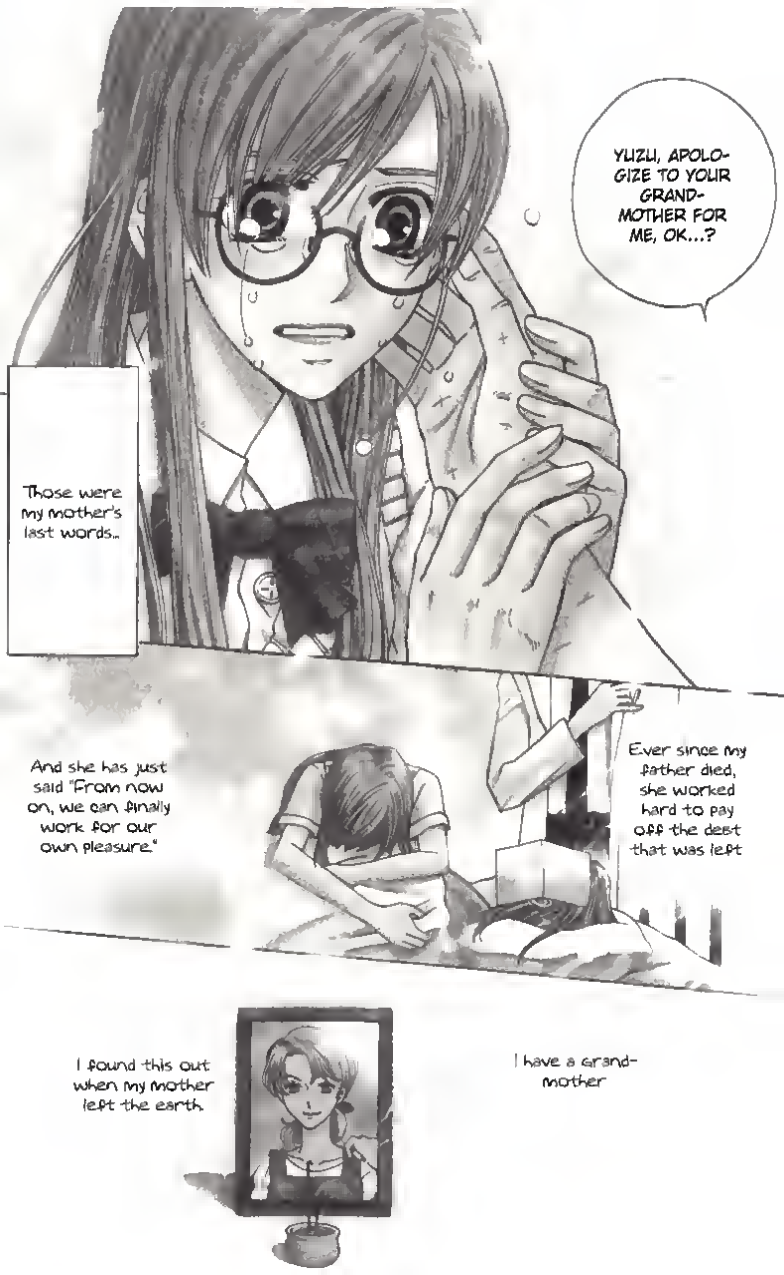
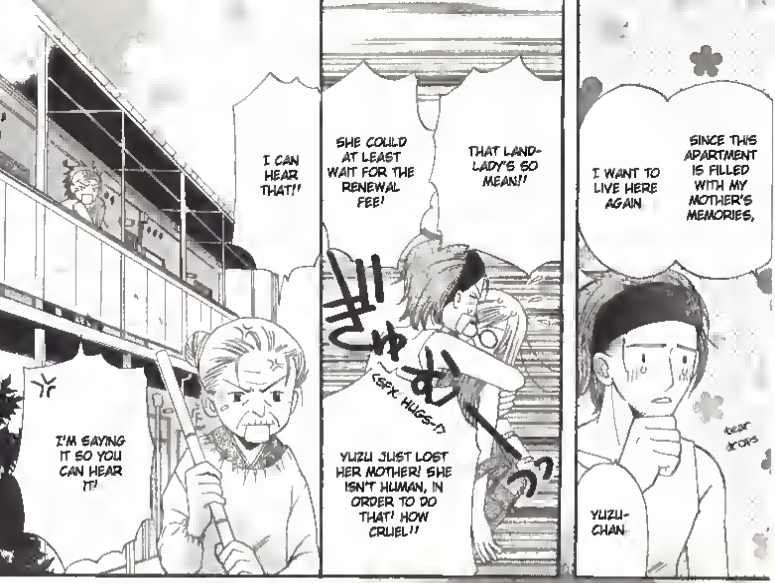
月刊プリンセス
2006年9月号～12月号掲載

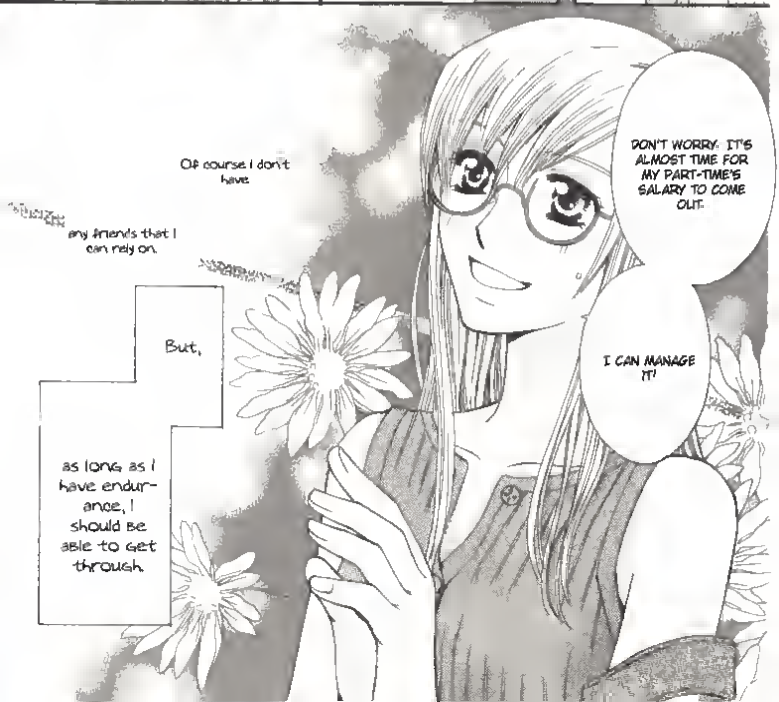
●この作品はフィクションです。
実在の個人・団体等にはいっさい
関係ありません。


YUZU, APOLOGIZE TO YOUR GRANDMOTHER FOR ME, OK...?
Those were my mother's last words..
And she has just said "From now on, we can finally work for our own pleasure."
Ever since my father died, she worked hard to pay off the debt that was left
I found this out when my mother left the earth.
I have a grandmother

究極ヴィーナス
EPISODE*1

YAMASHI
TAYUZU
YUZU-CHAN, DO YOU HAVE ANY-WHERE TO GO?
BUT...
HE'LL GET MAD AT ME.
BESIDES, YOUR BOYFRIEND'S COMING BACK FROM HIS TRIP TONIGHT, RIGHT?
YOU SHOULDN'T HESITATE TO STAY AT MY ROOM.
I SHOULDN'T SINCE I'VE ALREADY IMPOSED ON YOUR KINDNESS FOR 3 DAYS...
IT'S FINE! I'M PLANNING TO LIVE NEXT DOOR AGAIN!
UNTIL THEN I'M STAYING AT A FRIEND'S HOUSE AND SAVING MONEY!


I CAN HEAR THAT!!
I'M SAYING IT SO YOU CAN HEAR IT!
SHE COULD AT LEAST WAIT FOR THE RENEWAL FEE!
THAT LANDLADY'S SO MEAN!!
<SFX: HUGS-n
YUZU JUST LOST HER MOTHER! SHE ISN'T HUMAN, IN ORDER TO DO THAT! HOW CRUEL!!
I WANT TO LIVE HERE AGAIN
SINCE THIS APARTMENT IS FILLED WITH MY MOTHER'S MEMORIES,
tear drops
YUZU-CHAN


Of course I don't have any friends that I can rely on.
But,
as long as I have endurance, I should be able to get through.
DON'T WORRY. IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR MY PART-TIME'S SALARY TO COME OUT.
I CAN MANAGE IT!

なんとか
<Text SOMEHOW>
Stick
Light goes off
Suddenly, off
There's a public bath close by and a restroom here
UNTIL I MAKE MONEY AND RENT THAT ROOM AGAIN, I'LL HAVE TO ENDURE IT.
NEXT MONTH. NO, BY NEXT, NEXT MONTH...

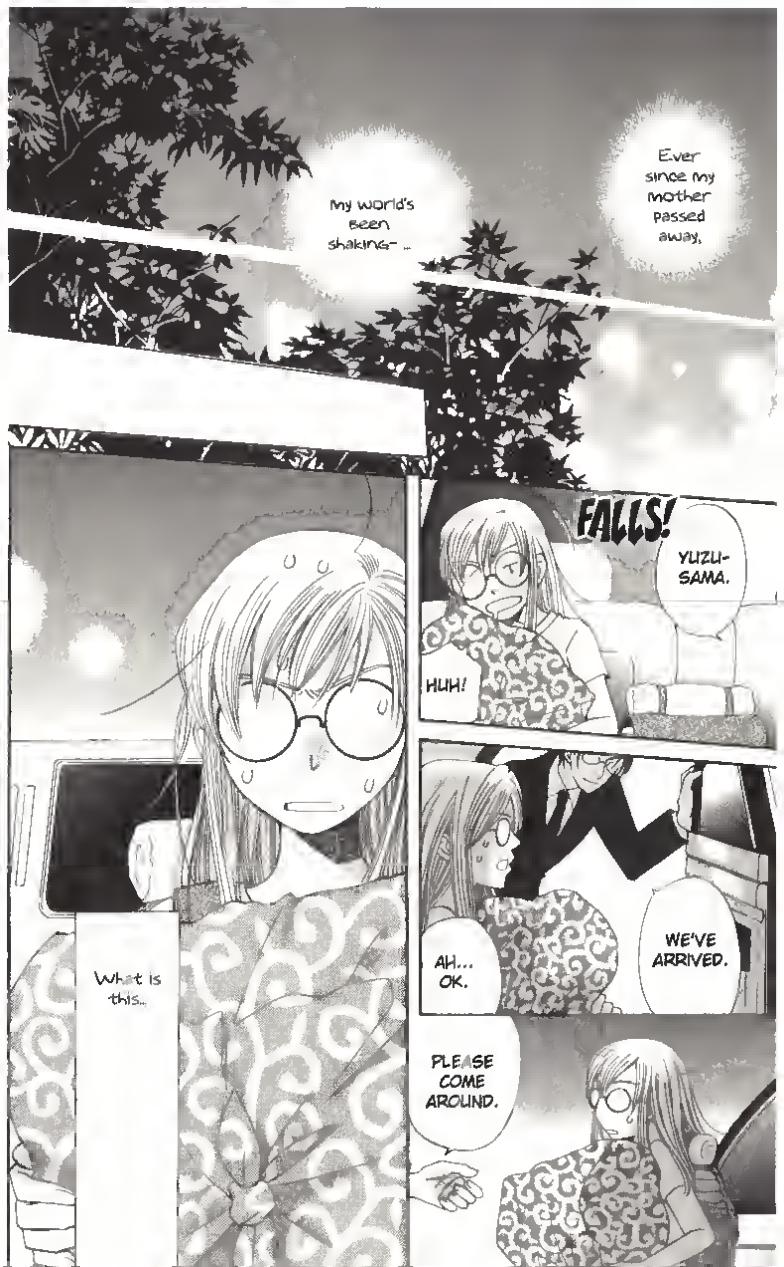
Gyah!!
<sfx: gets pulled>
Ahh
park at night,
molester,
weird people,
ghosts
B
crawls
crawls more
It should be fine!! No one will come here!
No one will-
grabs

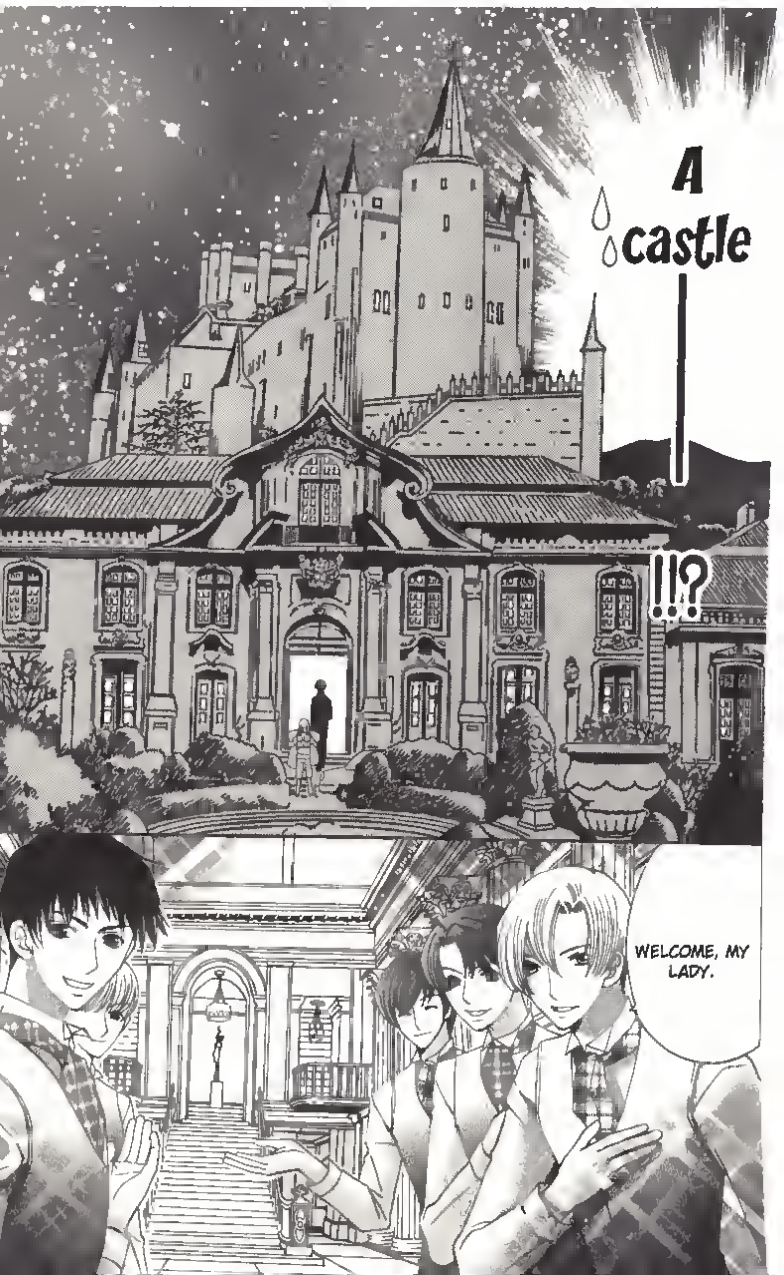
EH?
EVEN THOUGH I LOOK LIKE THIS, I'M A GUY!
I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY!
YOU'RE MS. YAMASHITA YUZU, RIGHT?
MY NAME IS KAGAMI HASSAKU.
AT YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S ORDER, I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU.

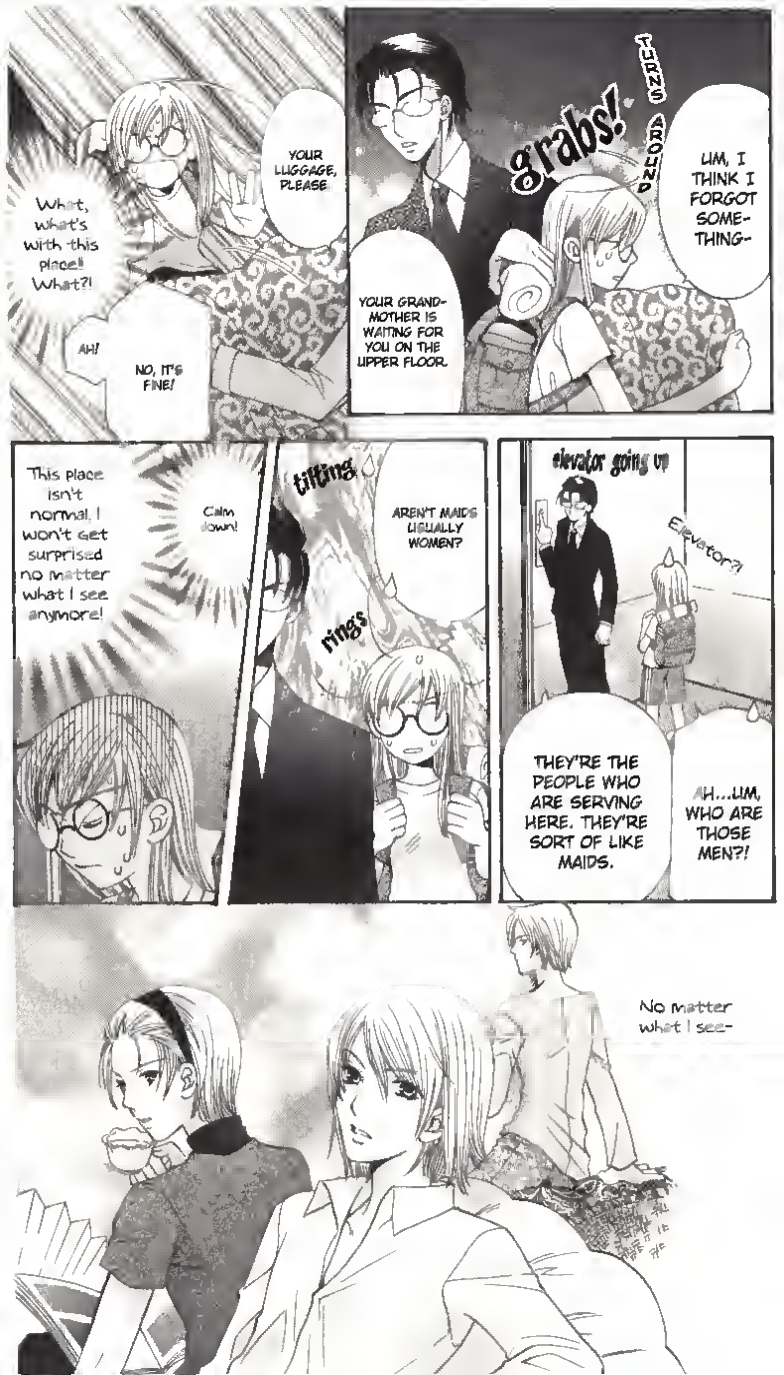
PLEASE TO MEET YOU.
em barrassed!
Th..this man..
Remember! "Mother's love★Mother's lesson #23"
That's about you found her
He's dangerous!!

car driving~
o .OK
scared
PLEASE REST FOR A LITTLE UNTIL WE ARRIVE
car driving
This person is my grandmother's servant..
The police confirmed his identity, but..
Be more suspicious toward a guy with a good looking face than a guy with a bad looking face!!

My grandmother...
I wonder what kind of person is she
How come I never got to meet her before?
UH, UM...
WHAT IS MY GRANDMOTHER LIKE?
.....
YOU'LL SEE WHEN YOU MEET HER.
Am I
going to be taken care of by my grandmother...?
Sigh...
What's with the silence?


Ever since my mother passed away,
My world's been shaking-...
What is this...
FALLS!
YUZU-SAMA.
HUH!
WE'VE ARRIVED.
AH... OK.
PLEASE COME AROUND.

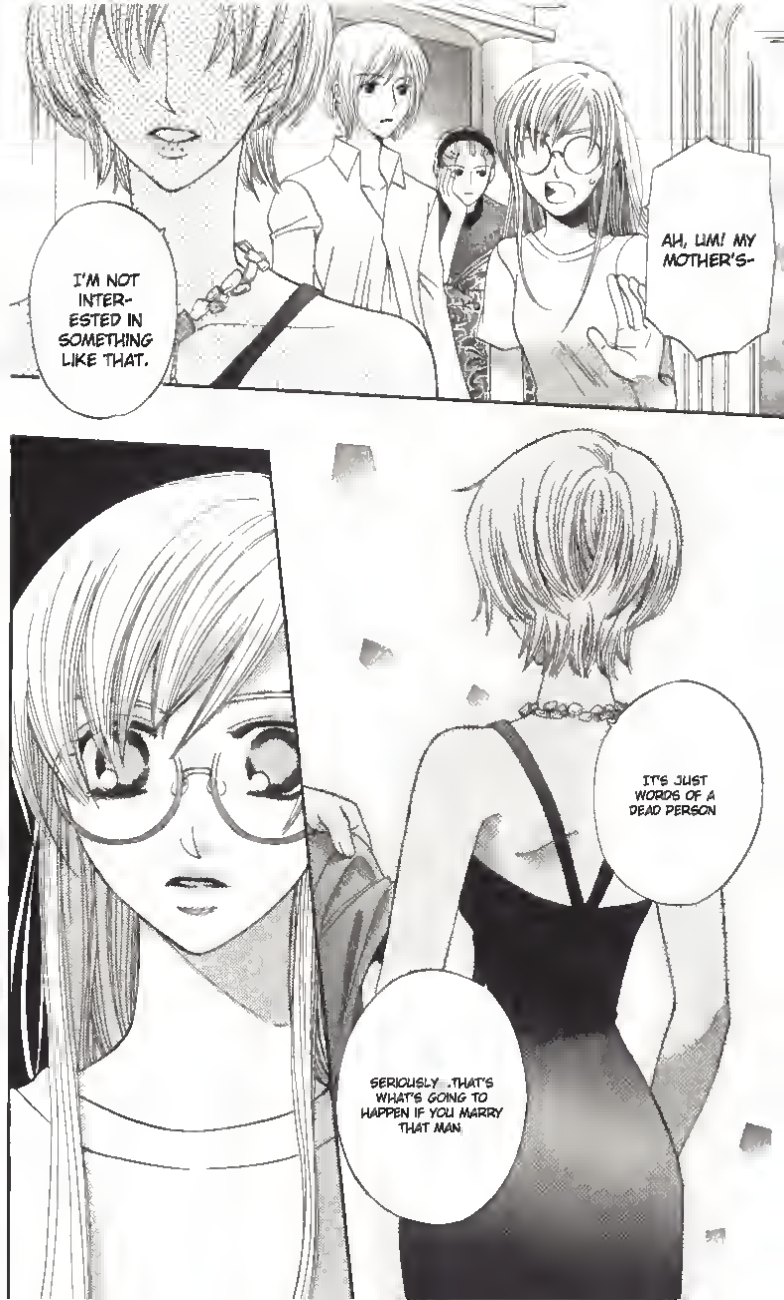

A castle
!!?
WELCOME, MY LADY.


What, what's with this place!! What?!
AH!
NO, IT'S FINE!
YOUR LUGGAGE, PLEASE
grabs!
turns around
UM, I THINK I FORGOT SOME-THING-
YOUR GRAND-MOTHER IS WAITING FOR YOU ON THE UPPER FLOOR.
This place isn't normal. I won't get surprised no matter what I see anymore!
Calm down!
tilting
rings
AREN'T MAIDS USUALLY WOMEN?
elevator going up
Elevator?!
THEY'RE THE PEOPLE WHO ARE SERVING HERE. THEY'RE SORT OF LIKE MAIDS.
AH...UM, WHO ARE THOSE MEN?!
No matter what I see-

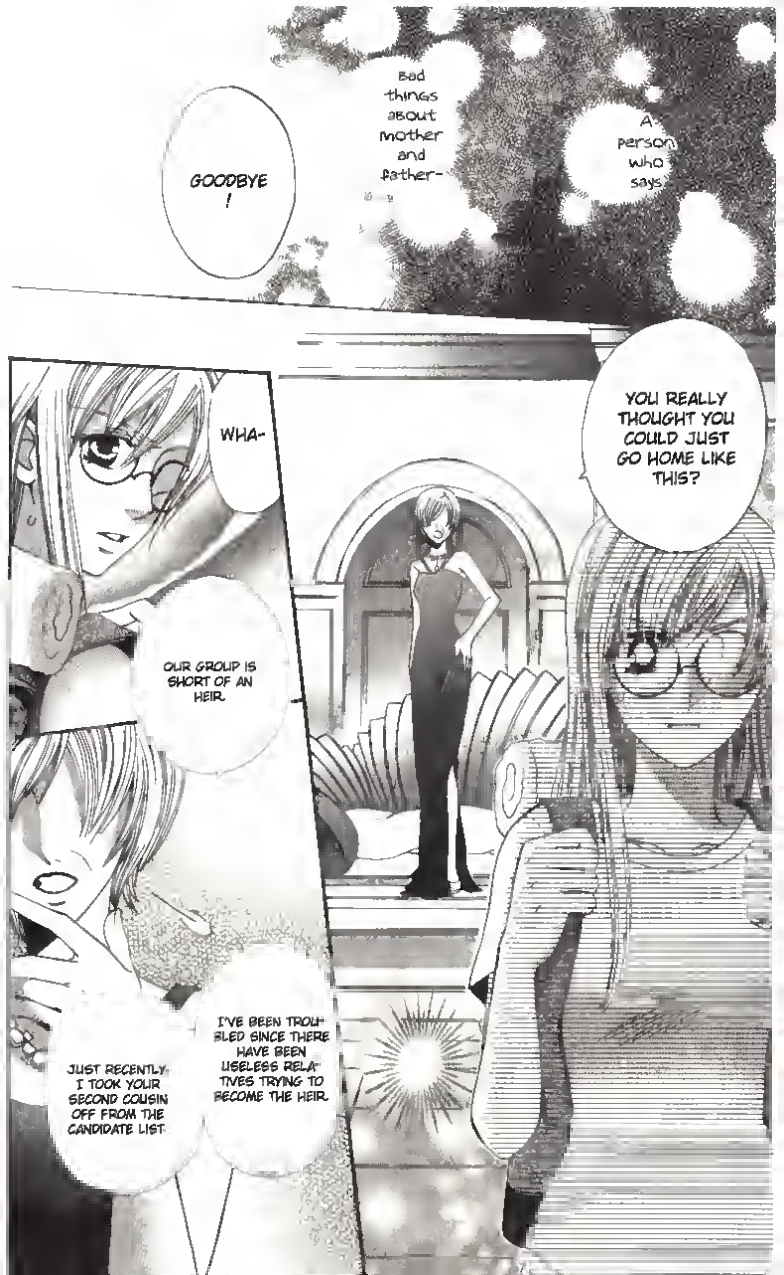
AH, HASSAKU, YOU'VE RETURNED?

YUZU-SAMA, THIS IS YOUR GRAND-MOTHER.
SHIRAYUKI GROUP'S PRESIDENT, SHIRAYUKI MITSUKO-SAMA.
HMMM.
My...my grand-mother is...
Falls
drops
THIS IS MY GRAND-DAUGH-TER?
so young!!
How old is she?! Really!!

. SHE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE AYAME (YUZU)'S MOTHER).
ALTHOUGH SHE'S MY GRAND-DAUGHTER, SHE LOOKS TOO PLAIN
stabs!
AH... UM, I'VE COME HERE TO DELIVER MY MOTHER'S LAST WORDS
I shouldn't worry anymore now.
In reality, I resemble my father more than my mother who's been called "Shitō City's Venus"
MY MOTHER SAID "SORRY"-
HASSAKU! I'M LEAVING HER TO YOU.

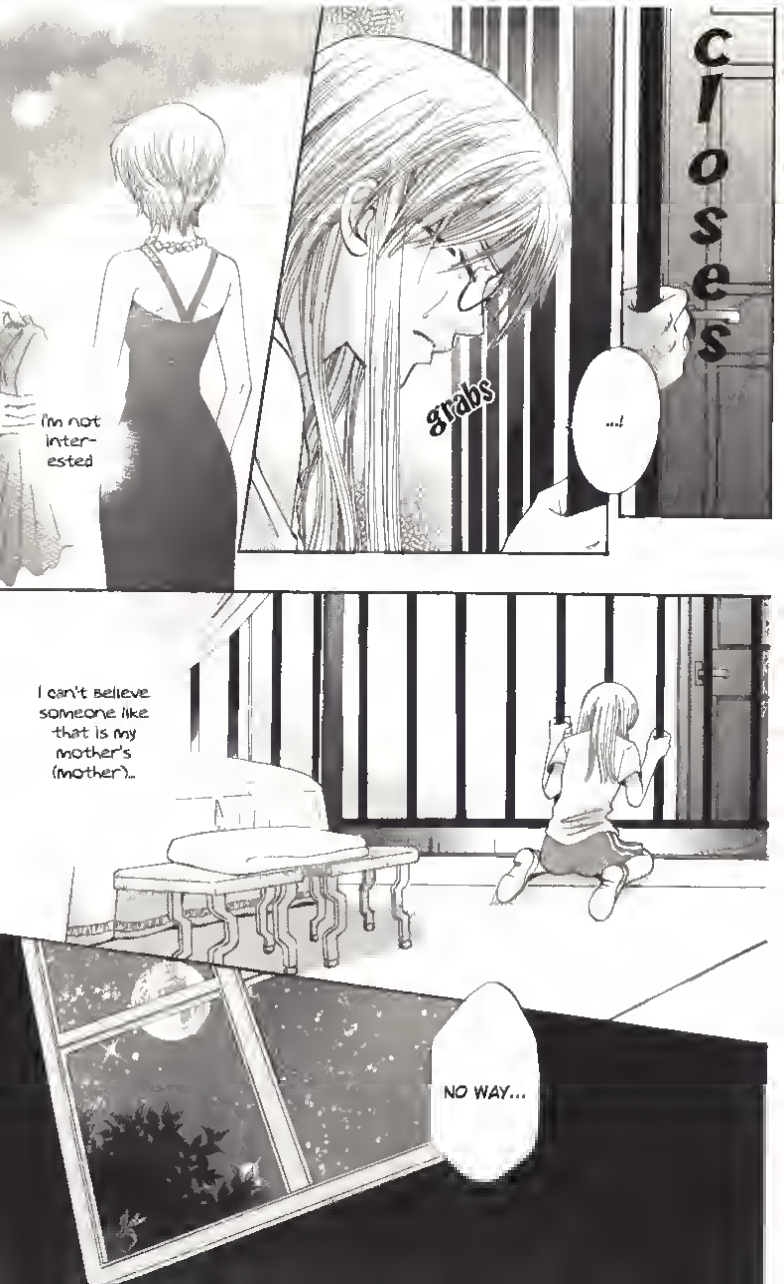

I'M NOT INTER-ESTED IN SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
AH, LIM! MY MOTHER'S-
IT'S JUST WORDS OF A DEAD PERSON
SERIOUSLY .THAT'S WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN IF YOU MARRY THAT MAN

HASSAKU, SHOW HER TO HER ROOM
...YES
COME WITH ME, LADY YUZU-SAMA..?
...wait...
MY LADY?
I'M NOT A LADY.
I CAME JUST TO DELIVER MY MOTHER'S WORDS.
grabs!
IF THAT PERSON SAYS SHE'S NOT INTERESTED,
No matter how hard my life will be, I won't ever depend on a person like this.


A person who says
Bad things about mother and father-
GOODBYE !
YOU REALLY THOUGHT YOU COULD JUST GO HOME LIKE THIS?
WHA-
OUR GROUP IS SHORT OF AN HEIR.
I'VE BEEN TROUBLED SINCE THERE HAVE BEEN USELESS RELATIVES TRYING TO BECOME THE HEIR.
JUST RECENTLY I TOOK YOUR SECOND COUSIN OFF FROM THE CANDIDATE LIST.

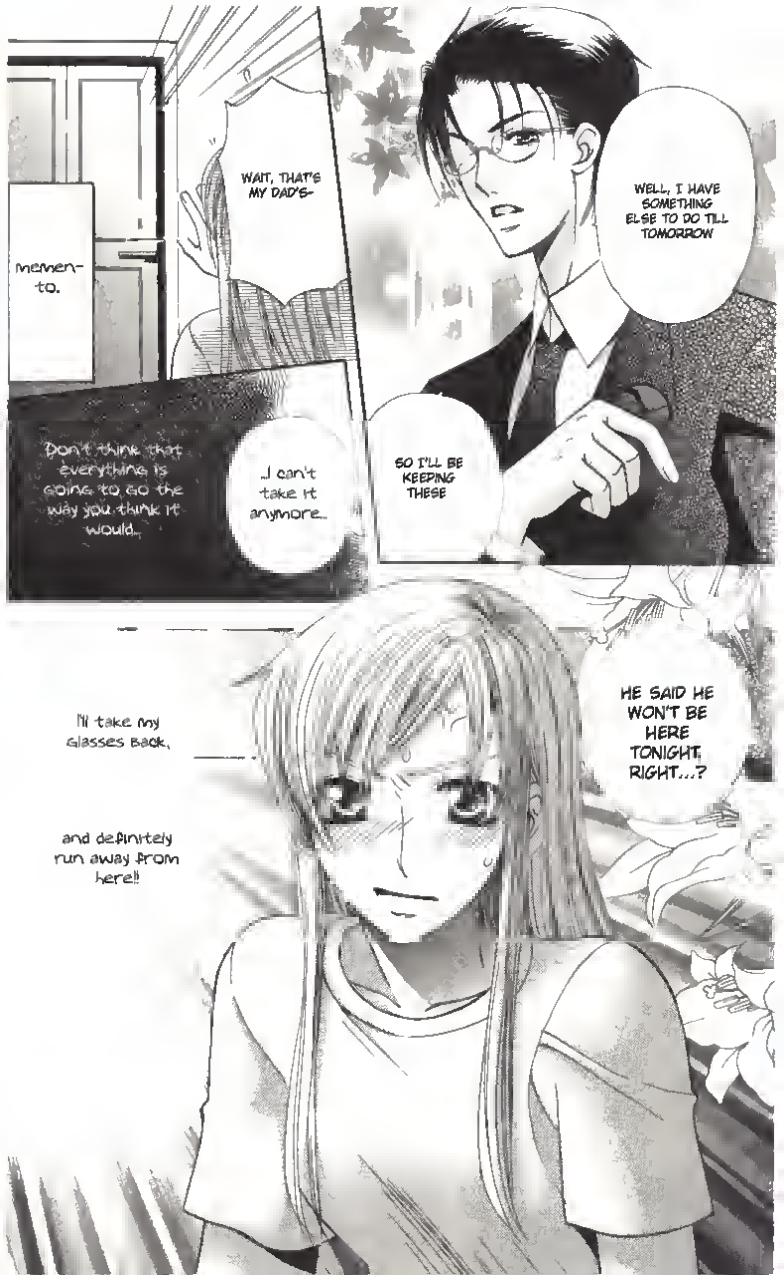
I WONDER HOW YOU'LL BE.
ALTHOUGH YOUR BLOOD'S CLOSEST TO MINE—
DON'T WORRY.
AS SOON AS WE FIND OUT THAT YOU'RE NOT WORTHY OF BEING SHIRAYUKI'S HEIR, WE'LL THROW YOU OUT.
<SFX: LOCKED>
WAIT, WHAT IS THIS...
YOU KNOW THIS IS A CRIME, RIGHT?
KIDNAPPING!
MITSUKO-SAMA IS ABSOLUTE HERE, SO I CAN'T DO ANYTHING.
JUST LEAVE!

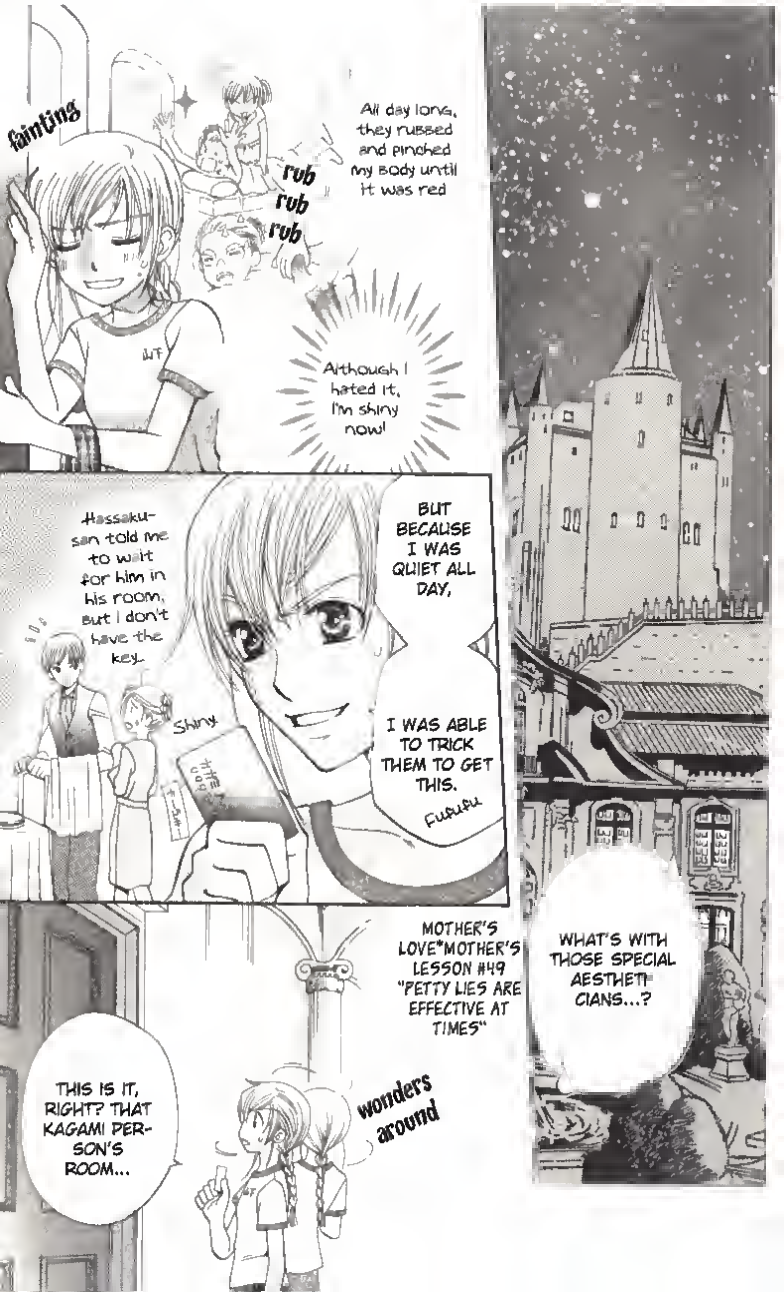
Fine! I'll just make stupid mistakes at the party...
A debut reception?!
UNTIL THEN, AS SHIRAYUKI'S HEIR,
THERE WILL BE A DEBUT RECEPTION A WEEK AFTER, WITH ALL OF YOUR RELATIVES
YOU'LL BE TRAINED AT LEAST TO BEHAVE FOR THE PARTY.
ALSO,
He read my mind!
DON'T EVEN THINK OF BEHAVING HORRIBLY ON PURPOSE.
IF YOU DO THAT,
YOU'LL BE PUTTING SHAME NOT ONLY ON YOURSELF, BUT ALSO ON YOUR DECEASED MOTHER.


I'm not interested
grabs
...!
closes
I can't believe someone like that is my mother's (mother)...
NO WAY...

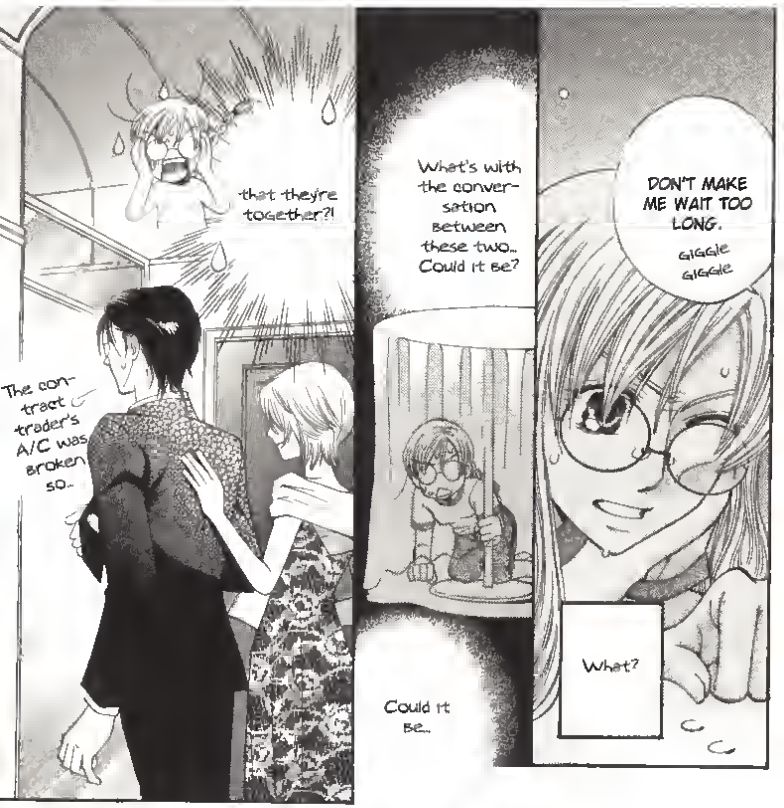
LESSON 1. WE'LL BEGIN WITH MEAL MANNERS FIRST.
stuffs mouth
SINCE I'VE BEEN ASSIGNED TO BE YOUR TEACHER,
I'LL AIM TO MAKE YOU A PERFECT LADY-
SINCE WHEN DID I SAY THAT YOU COULD EAT?
Ham's gonna come out! Ham's gonna come out!
Mm.
grabs-

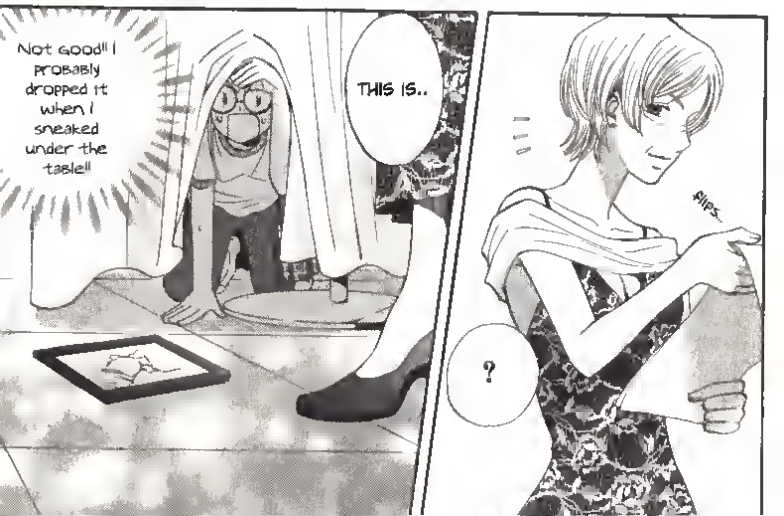
I..I WAS JUST HUNGRY!
I REALLY HAVEN'T BEEN EATING RECENTLY!
Why not?! You're stingy!
grabs all
Mine!
I UNDER-STAND...
Sigh.
WE CAN BEGIN THE MEAL MANNERS TOMOR-ROW.
I'LL ANNOUNCE THE SCHEDULE AFTER YOUR MEAL TO THE SPECIALISTS. PLEASE FOLLOW IT.
stuffs stuffs stuffs
Before he takes them away...
AND-
takes away
YOU WON'T NEED THIS, RIGHT?
WH..! GIVE IT BACK!
AS I'VE SUS-PECTED, THOSE AREN'T REAL GLASSES, ARE IT.
<SFX STANDS UP>


WELL, I HAVE SOMETHING ELSE TO DO TILL TOMORROW
SO I'LL BE KEEPING THESE
..I can't take it anymore..
Don't think that everything is going to go the way you think it would..
WAIT, THAT'S MY DAD'S-
memen-to.
HE SAID HE WON'T BE HERE TONIGHT, RIGHT...?
I'll take my glasses back.
and definitely run away from here!!


fainting
rub rub rub
All day long, they rubbed and pinched my body until it was red
Although I hated it, I'm shiny now!
Hassaku-san told me to wait for him in his room, but I don't have the key.
Shiny
BUT BECAUSE I WAS QUIET ALL DAY,
I WAS ABLE TO TRICK THEM TO GET THIS.
Fufufu
MOTHER'S LOVE*MOTHER'S LESSON #49 "PETTY LIES ARE EFFECTIVE AT TIMES"
WHAT'S WITH THOSE SPECIAL AESTHETICIANS...?
THIS IS IT, RIGHT? THAT KAGAMI PERSON'S ROOM...
wonders around

Transform!
Now I can get out of here for good.
Yay...
There it is!!
My mother's picture, stamp, and bank passbook.
I can only bring these with me, but...
door opens
!?
GO TAKE A SHOWER FIRST AND CLEAN YOURSELF, HASSAKU.
WHILE YOU DO THAT, I'LL TAKE A LOOK THROUGH THE PAPERS


DON'T MAKE ME WAIT TOO LONG.
GIGGLE GIGGLE
What's with the conversation between these two.. Could it be?
What?
Could it be..
that they're together?!
The contract trader's A/C was broken so-


Not good! I probably dropped it when I sneaked under the table!!
THIS IS..
GASP
?

AYAME...
WHAT A STUPID DAUGHTER...
sighs in down..
GETTING OUT OF THE HOUSE BY HERSELF AND ENDING UP DYING. .
I THINK I'LL JUST REST FOR TONIGHT.
HASSAKU... NO, I SEEM TO BE JUST A LITTLE TIRED.
opens
IS SOMETHING WRONG, PRESIDENT?

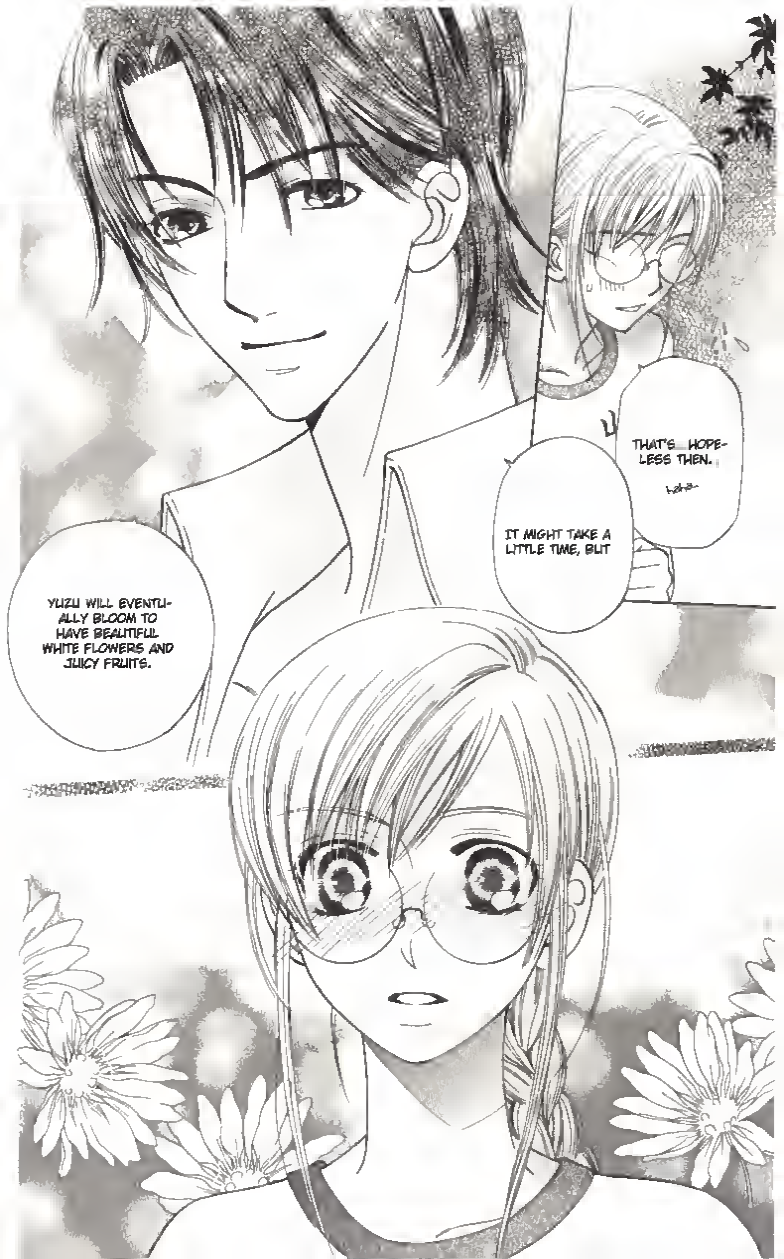
Grand-mother's hand...it was shaking...
I UNDER-STAND, THEN TOMOR-ROW...
——
Maybe...
She's not thinking badly about mother-...
And?
<SFX grabs>
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
EH?
WAH!
IT'S MY FATHER'S MEMENTO SO-
I'M NOT RETURNING THE GL... GLASSES TO YOU!!

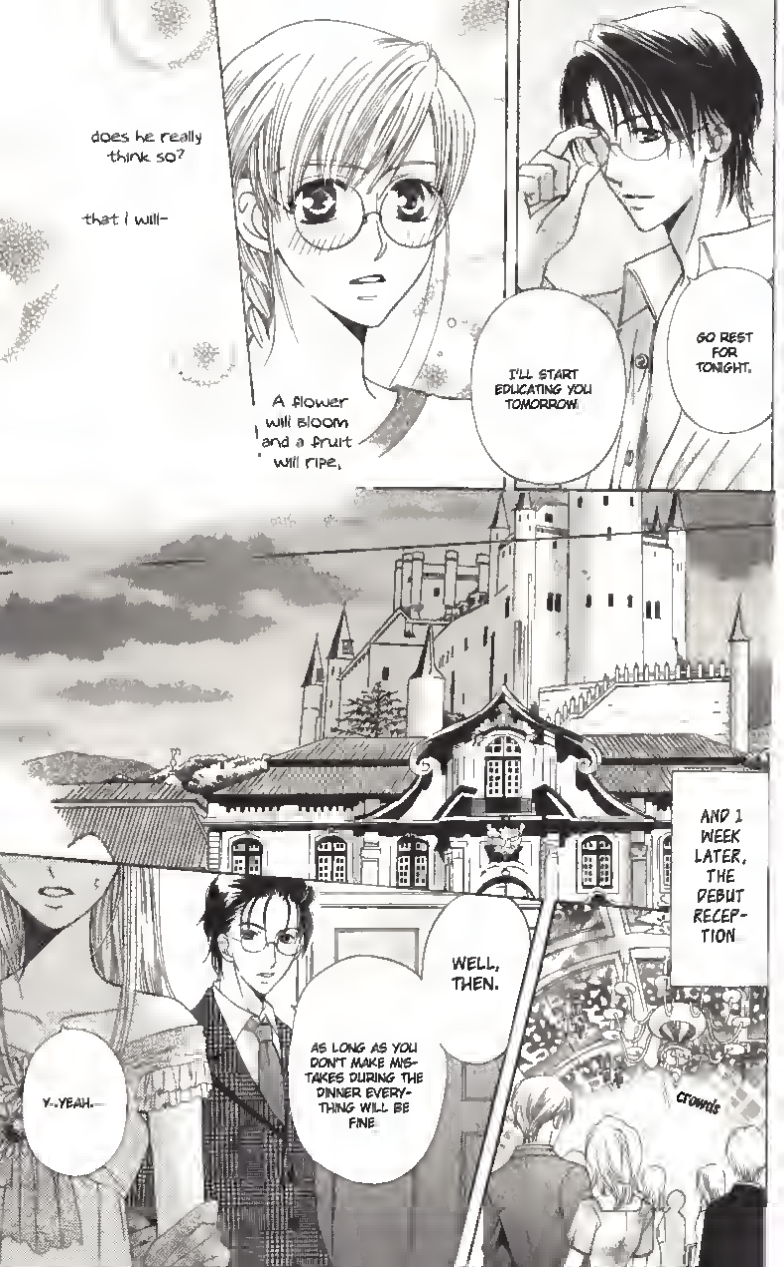
ba-bump.
Ka. Kagami-san_?!
U...
I didn't think he could change this much by putting his hair down and taking off his glasses...
S... SORRY-
BUT YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO DO THIS THOUGH...

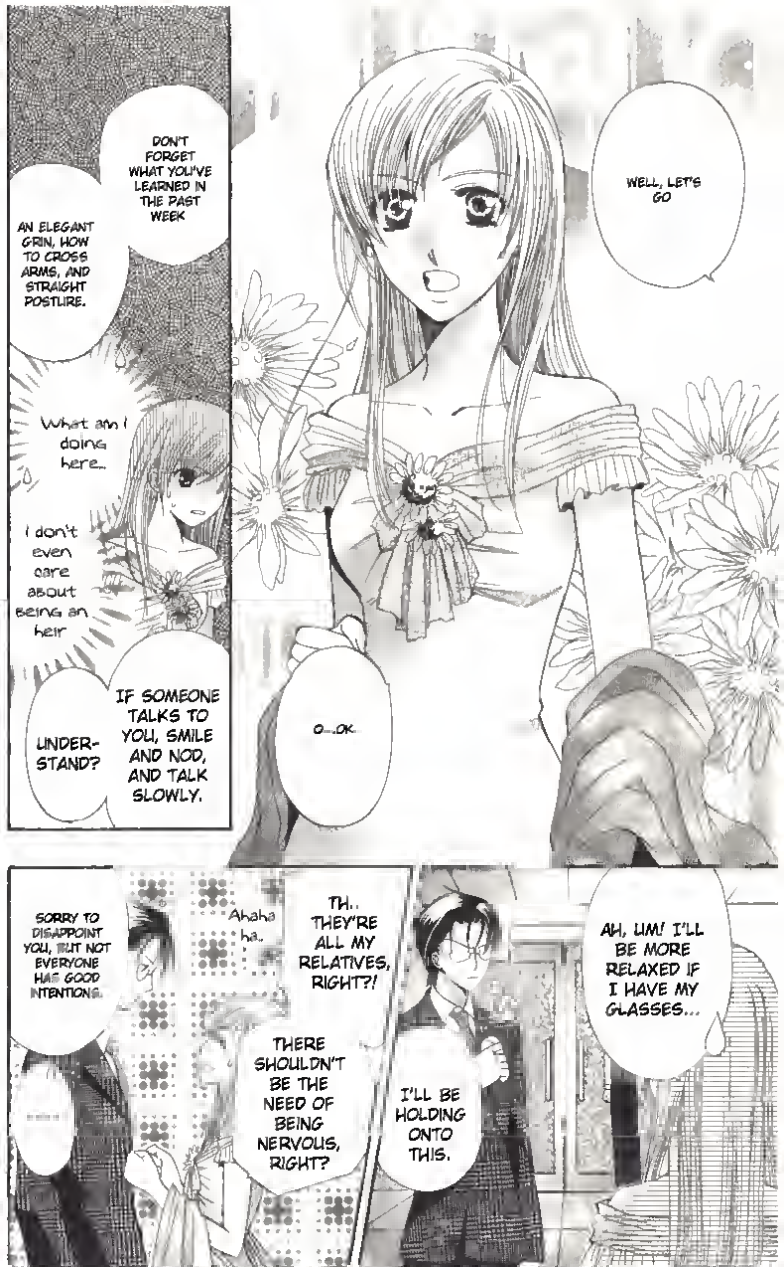
A THIEF'S ACT...
IF YOU DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS, PEOPLE WILL WONDER ABOUT YOUR MOTHER'S WAY OF RAISING YOU
gets mad.
DON'T TALK ABOUT MY MOTHER!!
I DON'T LIKE MY GRANDMOTHER OR YOU!
JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE HER LOVER-
slaps lightly

I WON'T ALLOW YOU TO INSULT HER.
SHE'S MY BENEFAC-TOR.
I don't know anything about him or my grand-mother...
And they don't know anything about me-
PLEASE LET ME GO.
To this person...my grand-mother's really important...
I'M... SORRY TOO.
BUT...
I'M SORRY...
I WILL APOL-OGIZE FOR BRINGING UP YOUR MOTHER.

*Proofreader's note: This saying is a reference to the amount of years it takes for a peach / chestnut / persimmon / citron's trees to bear fruit.)
DO YOU KNOW WHAT COMES AFTER
OF THE SAYING "PEACH AND CHESTNUT TAKE 3 YEARS. PERSIMMON TAKES 8 YEARS."
NEITHER YOU NOR GRANDMOTHER UNDERSTANDS.
I'M DIFFERENT FROM MY MOTHER.
ALTHOUGH IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT DEPENDING ON THE AREA,
I CAN'T BE AN HEIR! ...I DON'T EVEN WANT TO BE ONE.
I'M JUST PLAIN AND NOT GORGEOUS.
THEY SAY "BIG IDIOT YUZU (CITRON) TAKES 18 YEARS."


YUZU WILL EVENTUALLY BLOOM TO HAVE BEAUTIFUL WHITE FLOWERS AND JUICY FRUITS.
IT MIGHT TAKE A LITTLE TIME, BUT
THAT'S... HOPELESS THEN.

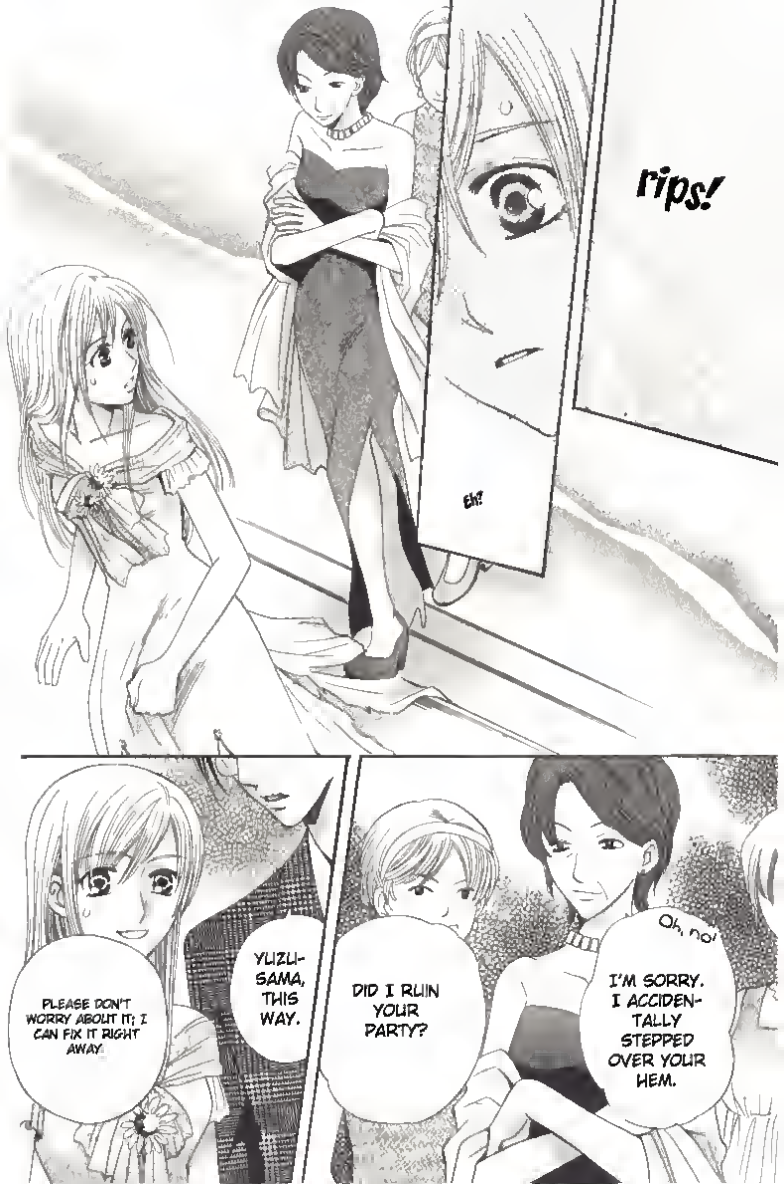

does he really think so?
that I will-
A flower will bloom and a fruit will ripe.
I'LL START EDUCATING YOU TOMORROW.
GO REST FOR TONIGHT.
AND 1 WEEK LATER, THE DEBUT RECEPTION
WELL, THEN.
AS LONG AS YOU DON'T MAKE MISTAKES DURING THE DINNER EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE.
Y..YEAH...
Crowns


DON'T FORGET WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED IN THE PAST WEEK
AN ELEGANT GRIN, HOW TO CROSS ARMS, AND STRAIGHT POSTURE.
What am I doing here..
I don't even care about being an heir
IF SOMEONE TALKS TO YOU, SMILE AND NOD, AND TALK SLOWLY.
UNDER-STAND?
WELL, LET'S GO
O...OK
SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, BUT NOT EVERYONE HAS GOOD INTENTIONS.
Ahaha ha..
TH.. THEY'RE ALL MY RELATIVES, RIGHT?!
THERE SHOULDN'T BE THE NEED OF BEING NERVOUS, RIGHT?
I'LL BE HOLDING ONTO THIS.
AH, UM! I'LL BE MORE RELAXED IF I HAVE MY GLASSES...

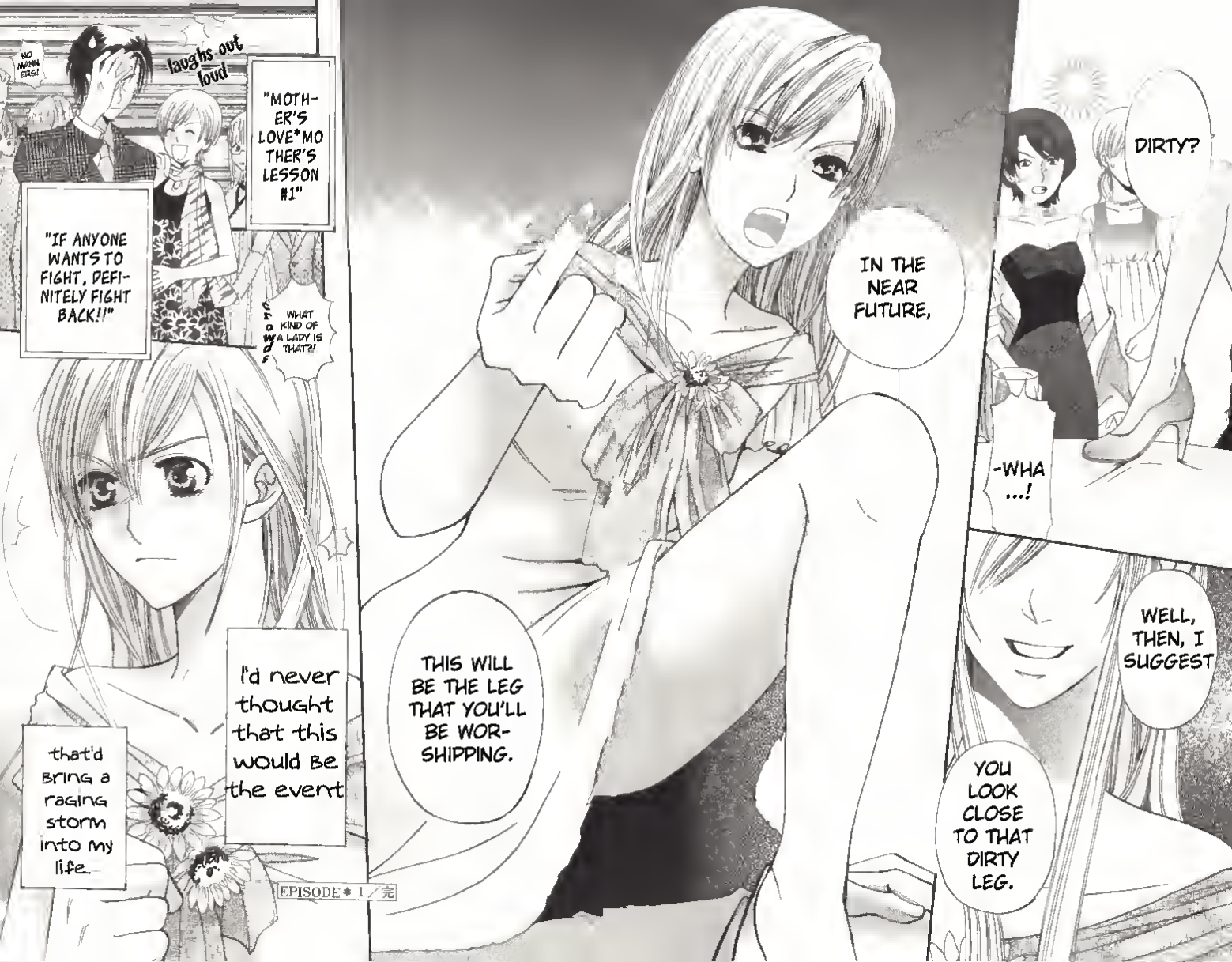
AND SOME PEOPLE ARE ENVIOUS OF THE HEIR CANDIDATE WHO SUDDENLY APPEARED OUT OF NOWHERE.
THEY ARE JEALOUS OF SHIRAYUKI'S WEALTH AND ARE TRYING TO GET ANYTHING OUT OF THIS
ALTHOUGH MANY ARE FROM WELL-KNOWN HOUSES, THEY'RE IN THE MIDST OF A FAMILY FEUD.
WELL,
LET US GO, MY LADY.
SWARMING.
WELCOME TO OUR WORLD.

nods
COME
crowd
AH, THEY'RE HERE, YUZU, HASSAKU!
THEIR FACES DON'T REALLY LOOK ALIKE
THAT'S AYAME'S
Ba-bump
Ba-bump
OH, MY, MITSUKO-SAN, SHE'S AN ADORABLE CHILD!
EVERYONE, THIS IS MY GRAND-DAUGHTER, YUZU
...AH.
YUZU-CHAN, MY NAME IS HAYASHIBARA MIYA
AYAME'S ONLY DAUGHTER.

smiles
HEY, LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF TOO
OF COURSE! I'LL LET YOU MEET YOUR SECOND COUSIN NEXT TIME.
EVERYONE, LET'S MOVE TO DINING FIRST.
MY NAME IS YAMASHITA YUZU.
PLEASE TO MEET YOU
MITSUKO-SAN..
KAGAMI-SAN..
THAT WAS WELL-DONE
I'm relieved.. If it's like this, then I should be fine-


rips!
Eh?
Oh, no!
I'M SORRY. I ACCIDENTALLY STEPPED OVER YOUR HEM.
DID I RUIN YOUR PARTY?
YUZU-SAMA, THIS WAY.
PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT; I CAN FIX IT RIGHT AWAY.

REGARDLESS OF BEING THE DAUGHTER OF THAT DIRTY MOTHER.
THAT'S RIGHT. IF YOU DON'T FIX IT QUICKLY, YOU'LL BE EXPOSING THAT VULGAR LEG OF YOURS
-REALLY,
Bam.
Wham.
?
YUZU-!


NO MANN ERS!
laughs out loud
"MOTHER'S LOVE*MOTHER'S LESSON #1"
"IF ANYONE WANTS TO FIGHT, DEFINITELY FIGHT BACK!!"
WHAT KIND OF A LADY IS THAT?!
I'd never thought that this would be the event
that'd bring a raging storm into my life.
EPISODE * 1
IN THE NEAR FUTURE,
THIS WILL BE THE LEG THAT YOU'LL BE WORSHIPPING.
DIRTY?
-WHA ...!
WELL, THEN, I SUGGEST
YOU LOOK CLOSE TO THAT DIRTY LEG.

HELLO NICE TO MEET YOU.

THANK YOU FOR READING "ULTIMATE VENUS" VOLUME 1!

VOLUME 1'S ALREADY GOING ON SALE! IT SEEMED JUST YESTERDAY THAT I WAS STILL TROUBLED THINKING OF A NEW TITLE....

Well, it was like this (?) I'd be happy if you enjoyed reading.
2006.11.16

PRINCESS COMICS

Ultimate Venus 1

Takako Shigematsu

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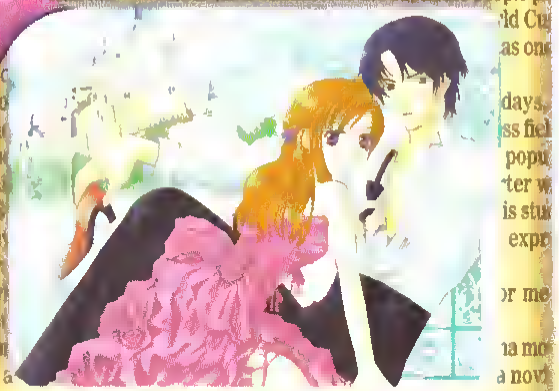
PRINCESS COMICS

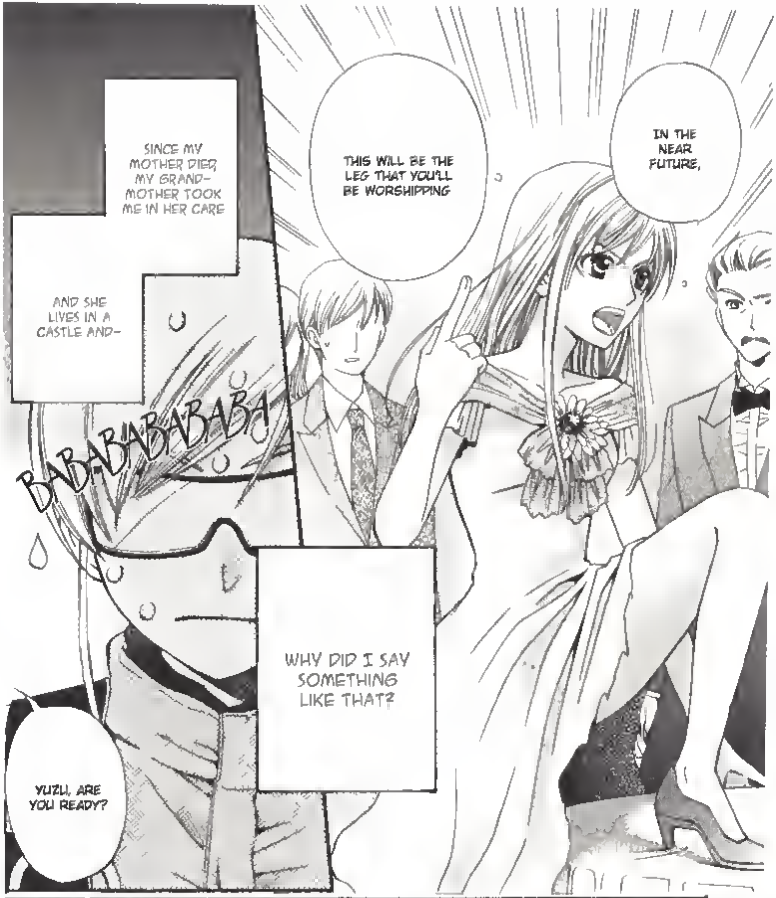
プリンセス・コミックス



Nakayama said: "I can't speak German n
and neither can most of the Japanese people pl
ch [to enter-
tional lan-
Games and some
which are easy to
"There was no need for me to speak Chinese
the movie set] as all of my lines were in Japan

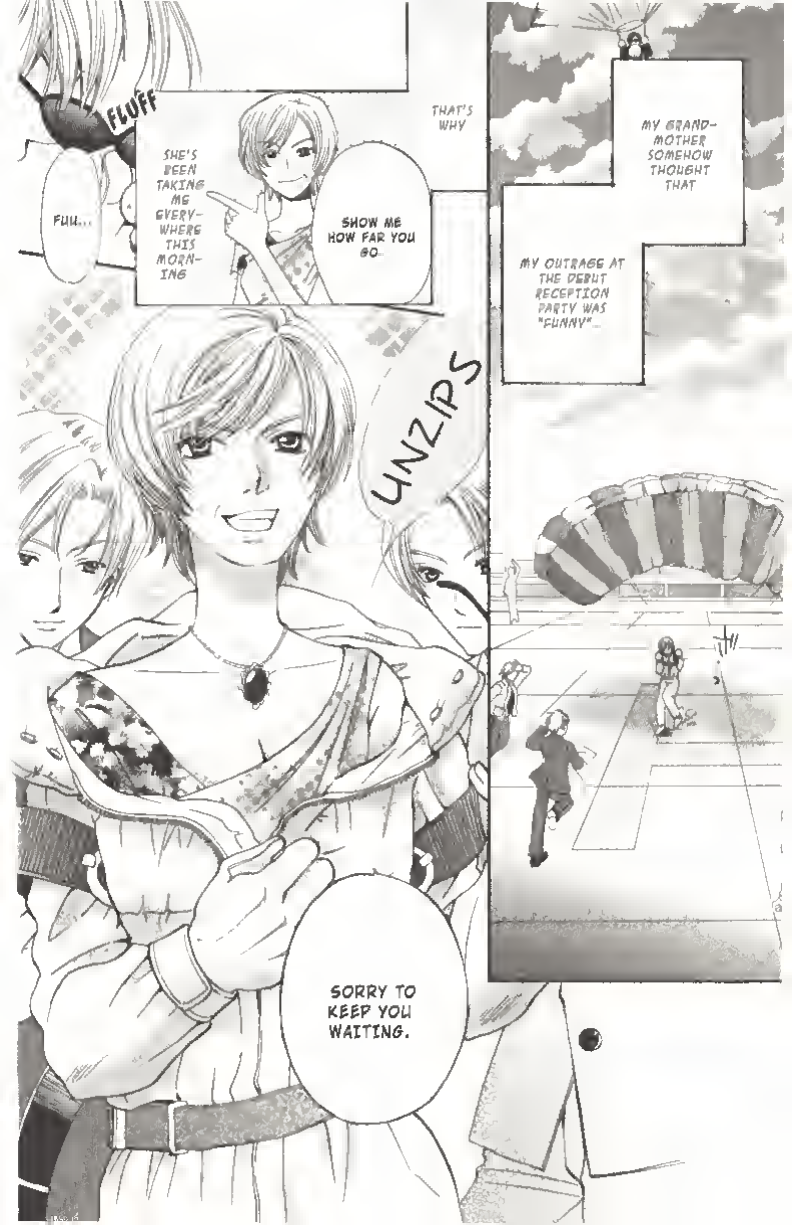
Summary: When Yuzu lost her mother, she was kicked out of her apartment, with her dying mother's words lingering in her mind. However, suddenly, her grandmother's secretary Hassaku appears in front of her, forcefully taking her to her super rich grandmother's castle, filled with handsome men! There's no time for Yuzu to check out the men – there's only enough time to train and become the heir of Shirayuki's corporation!

究極ヴィーナス
エピソート
EPISODE*2


SINCE MY MOTHER DIED, MY GRAND-MOTHER TOOK ME IN HER CARE
AND SHE LIVES IN A CASTLE AND-
BABABABABABA
YUZU, ARE YOU READY?
WHY DID I SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
THIS WILL BE THE LEG THAT YOU'LL BE WORSHIPPING
IN THE NEAR FUTURE,

Yamashita Yuzu (15 years old)
Birth Date: December 27th Blood Type A
Hobby --> Gardening (more like growing her own vegetables)
Likings --> fermented soybeans, piggybank with changes.
Her ideal woman is her mother. She has a mother complex as well as a father complex.

WHILE MY HEAD WAS IN A HUGE CONFUSION,
I HEARD SOMEONE BAD-MOUTHING ABOUT MY MOTHER AT MY DEBUT RECEPTION PARTY-
SFX: BABABABABA
NOOOOOOO
LET
GO!
SO THAT'S WHY I SAID SUCH A THING!
AH
AHHAHA!

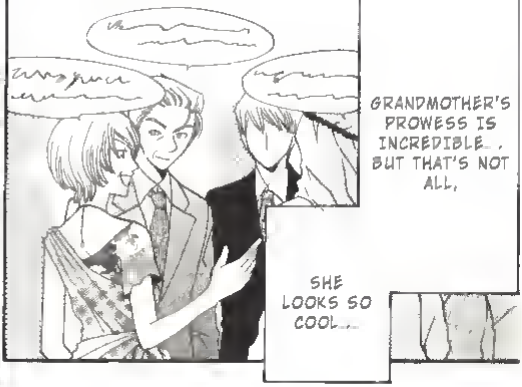

FLUFF
FUU...
SHE'S BEEN TAKING ME EVERYWHERE THIS MORNING
THAT'S WHY
SHOW ME HOW FAR YOU GO
MY GRANDMOTHER SOMEHOW THOUGHT THAT
MY OUTRAGE AT THE DEBUT RECEPTION PARTY WAS "FUNNY"...
UNZIPS
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.

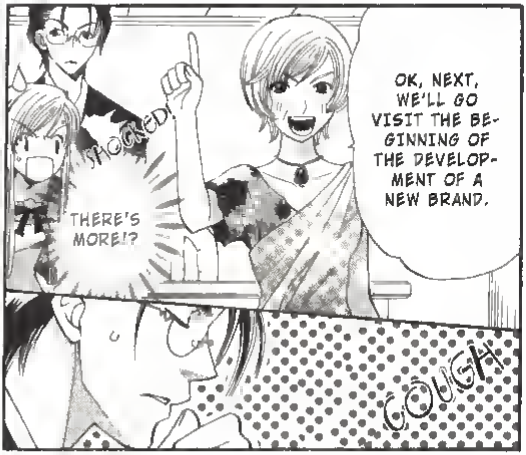
THUMP!
MR.HARRIM IS WAITING FOR YOU IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM.
WALKS WALKS
THAT'S GOOD. I DON'T WANT THE OTHER PARTY TO WAIT TOO LONG.
NO, PRESIDENT, YOU'RE ON TIME
I'M....NOT OK.....
RUNNING OUR OF BREATH
AK!
ARE YOU OK?
OUT OF BREATH OUT OF BREATH
NEW WORK PRESENTATION PLANNING CONFERENCE STAFFS MEETING BUSINESS LUNCH
TRANPORTATION IS DONE BY A HELICOPTER OR PRIVATE PLANE
IS THE PRESIDENT OF SHIRAYUKI GROUP SUPPOSED TO WORK THIS HARD!?

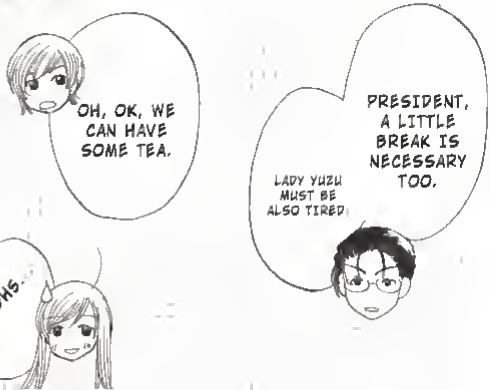
EXHAUSTED
SPARKLE SPARKLE
AAH, EVERYONE, THIS IS MY GRANDDAUGHTER YUZU-
OH, A LADY!!
NICE TO MEET YOU
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN
GRANDMOTHER IS A FEARLESS PERSON
BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH
GAZES
BLAH BLAH
AH...UM, DID IT END?
WHISPERS
THE DETAILED TERMS WILL BE DISCUSSED IN THE FUTURE BUT...
AMAZED...
THAT'S KIND OF INCREDIBLE
YES, THE NEGOTIATION FOR THE CONTRACT WAS SUCCESSFUL
SMILES
I GUESS IT'S SETTLED?
HUH!

USELESS PEOPLE 1
AH- THAT SOUNDS GOOD-
AH-.. I WANT TO MAKE MY OWN PC GAME SOMEDAY.
H
T

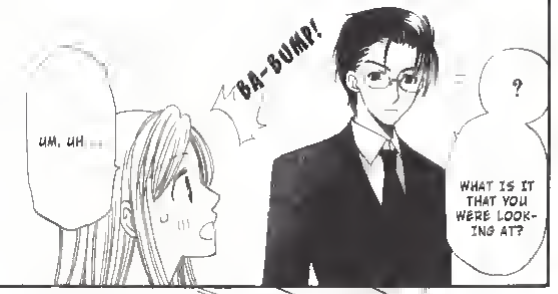
ESCAPING FROM THE REALITY OF MANGA DUE DATE
I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO MAKE THE CHARACTERS, DON'T YOU THINK?
I HEARD THAT THERE'S A SOFTWARE THAT ALLOWS YOU TO EASILY MAKE THOSE
LIKE GIRL GAMES.
I LIKE GUYS WHO TALK LIKE WOMEN!
I WANT TO PUT IN A USELESS GUY WITH GLASSES.
OLD MAN CHARACTER TYPES TOO.
THE SOUND OF DRAWING TONES
SHAKA
SHAKA
LET'S PUT IN WILD TYPE AND YOUNG BOY TYPE TOO.
THERE'S A PRINCE CHARACTER OF JUSTICE TOO.
OLD MAN TYPES TOO
THE SOUND OF DRAWING TONES
SHAKA
SHAKA
HOW MUCH I LIKE HAVING OLD MAN CHARACTERS.


GRANDMOTHER'S PROWESS IS INCREDIBLE.. BUT THAT'S NOT ALL,
SHE LOOKS SO COOL...


OK, NEXT, WE'LL GO VISIT THE BEGINNING OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW BRAND.
HOORAY!
THERE'S MORE!?
COUGH

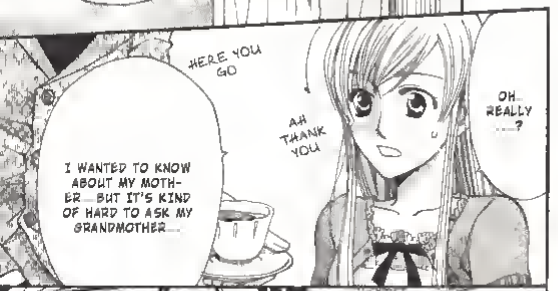

OH, OK, WE CAN HAVE SOME TEA.
PRESIDENT, A LITTLE BREAK IS NECESSARY TOO.
LADY YUZU MUST BE ALSO TIRED.
SIGHS..

I'LL PREPARE THE TEA VERY QUICK.
I'M SAVED...
WELL, I'M GOING TO FIX MY MAKE-UP REALLY QUICK.
?
UM...IS GRANDMA'S SCHEDULE ALWAYS THIS HARD?
I HAVEN'T SEEN THAT MUCH EXCITEMENT IN PRESIDENT FOR A WHILE...
I GUESS SHE'S A LITTLE EXCITED BECAUSE YOU'RE WITH HER.
NOT ALWAYS... BUT YES,
A KIND FACE
RE, REALLY?



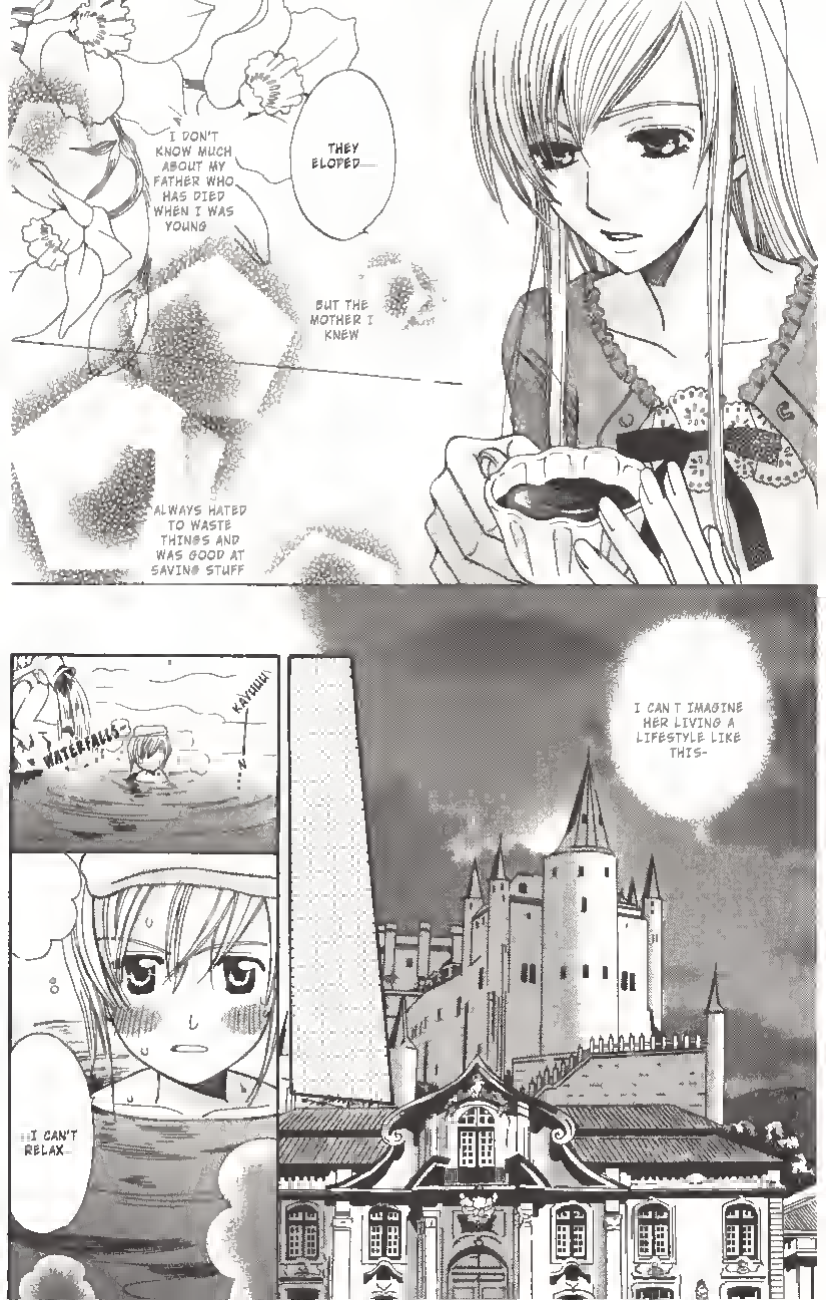
I WONDER IF KAGAMI-SAN LIKES GRANDMOTHER...

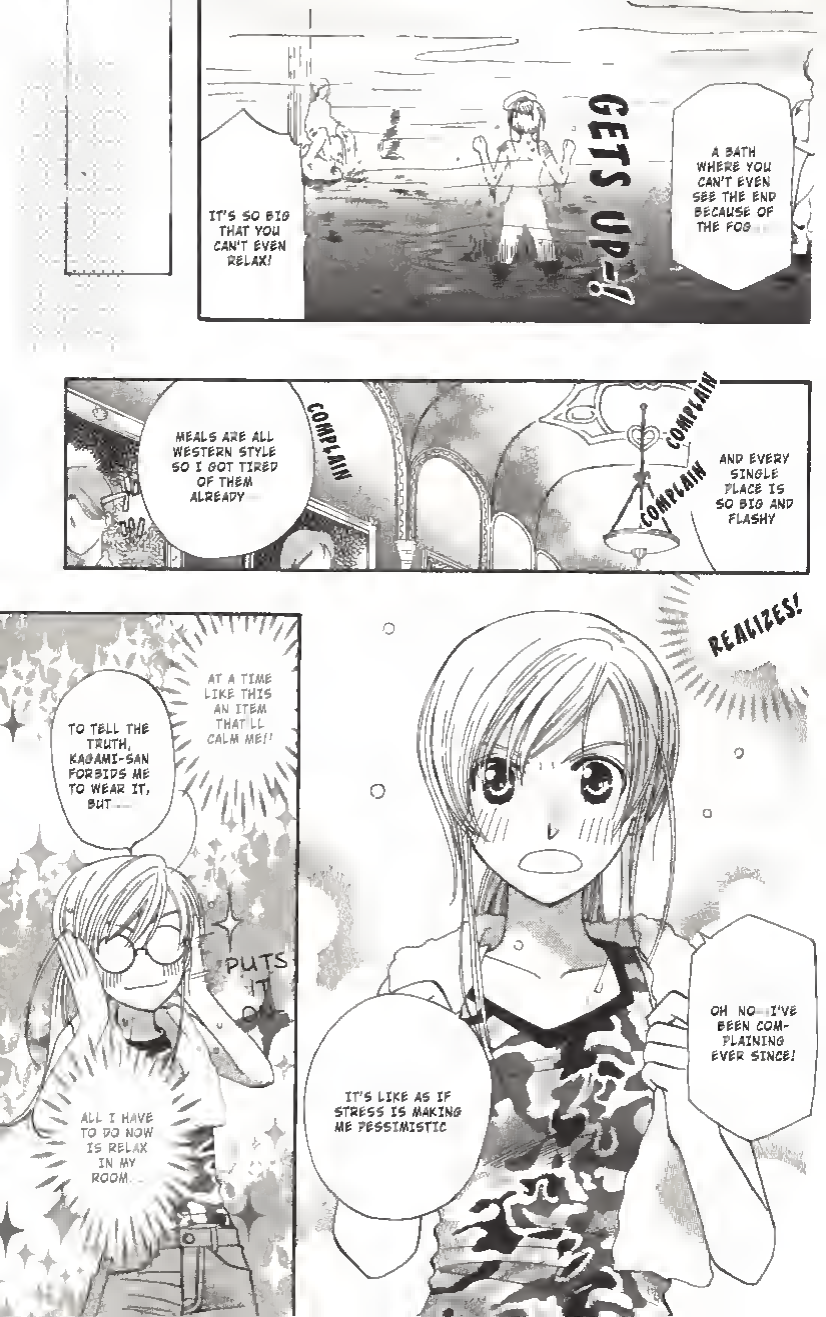
ABOUT AYAME-SAMA?
NO... SINCE IT WAS ONLY 8 YEARS AGO THAT I WAS TAKEN IN BY PRESIDENT...
OH, YEAH! UM... DOES KAGAMI-SAN KNOW ABOUT MY MOTHER?

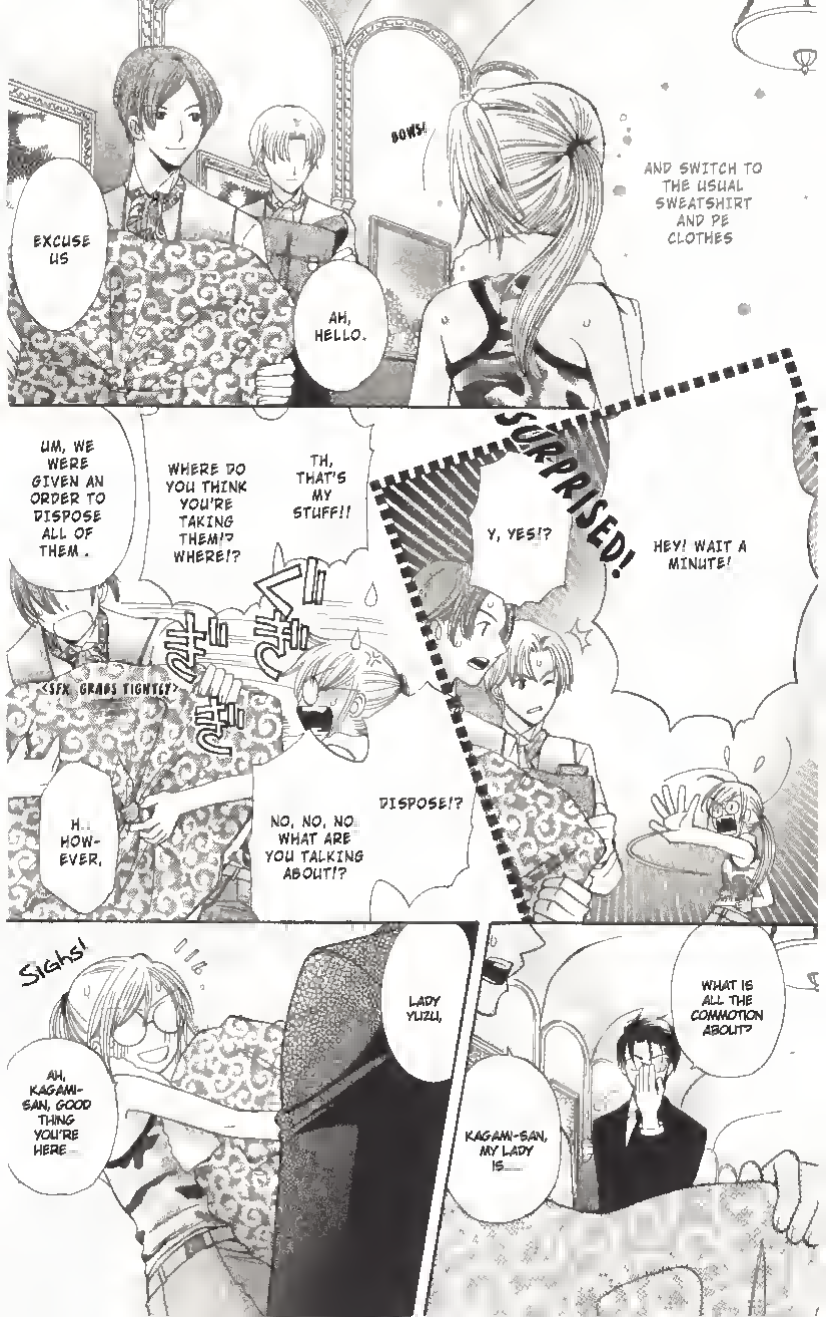


ALTHOUGH HE DENIED THAT THEY ARE LOVERS..

...IT WAS 17 YEARS AGO SINCE AYAME-SAMA HAS FLED FROM THE PRESIDENT.
I HEARD SHE ELOPED DUE TO THE PEOPLE'S OPPOSING TO THE MARRIAGE.


I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT MY FATHER WHO HAS DIED WHEN I WAS YOUNG
THEY ELOPED...
BUT THE MOTHER I KNEW
ALWAYS HATED TO WASTE THINGS AND WAS GOOD AT SAVING STUFF
WATERFALLS
KAYOHH
I CAN'T IMAGINE HER LIVING A LIFESTYLE LIKE THIS-
...I CAN'T RELAX...

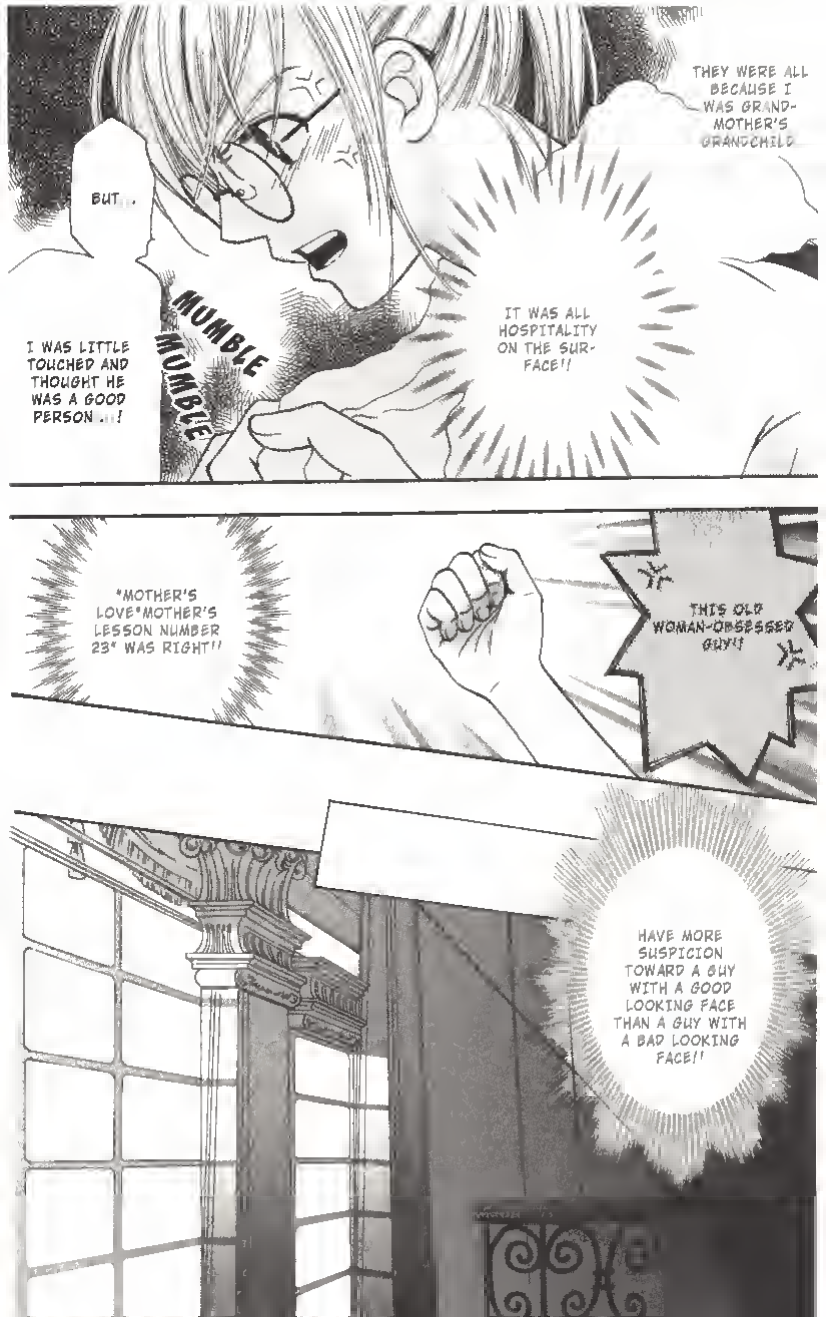

A BATH WHERE YOU CAN'T EVEN SEE THE END BECAUSE OF THE FOG...
GETS UP!
IT'S SO BIG THAT YOU CAN'T EVEN RELAX!
COMPLAIN
COMPLAIN
COMPLAIN
AND EVERY SINGLE PLACE IS SO BIG AND FLASHY
MEALS ARE ALL WESTERN STYLE SO I GOT TIRED OF THEM ALREADY...
REALIZES!
OH NO...I'VE BEEN COMPLAINING EVER SINCE!
IT'S LIKE AS IF STRESS IS MAKING ME PESSIMISTIC
AT A TIME LIKE THIS AN ITEM THAT'LL CALM ME!!
TO TELL THE TRUTH, KAGAMI-SAN FORBIDS ME TO WEAR IT, BUT...
PUTS IT ON
ALL I HAVE TO DO NOW IS RELAX IN MY ROOM...


AND SWITCH TO THE USUAL SWEATSHIRT AND PE CLOTHES
BOWS!
EXCUSE US
AH, HELLO.
SURPRISED!
UM, WE WERE GIVEN AN ORDER TO DISPOSE ALL OF THEM.
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TAKING THEM!? WHERE!?
TH, THAT'S MY STUFF!!
Y, YES!?
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE!
<SFX: GRABS TIGHTLY>
H... HOW-EVER,
NO, NO, NO. WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
DISPOSE!?
Sighs
AH, KAGAMI-SAN, GOOD THING YOU'RE HERE...
LADY YUZU,
KAGAMI-SAN, MY LADY IS...
WHAT IS ALL THE COMMOTION ABOUT?

THEY'RE ALL VERY IMPORTANT!
THEY ALL HOLD MY MOTHER'S MEMORY.
DON'T MAKE THEM THROW MY STUFF AWAY!!
PLEASE BURN EVERYTHING.
Y, YES.
I SEE. I UNDER-STAND.
SIGNS!
GOOD! HE UNDER-STANDS!

KAGAMI-SAN!?
IT'S THE PRESIDENT'S ORDER
WITHOUT HOLDING ONTO THE PAST
YOU SHOULD BEHAVE ACCORDINGLY AS A SHIRAYUKI GROUP PRESIDENT'S GRANDCHILD-
BUT STILL,
YOU CAN'T JUST IGNORE MY FEELINGS-
FU.
YOUR FEELINGS ARE IRRELEVANT TO ME

I GOT IT... I FINALLY FOUND OUT THIS PERSON'S TRUE NATURE!!
TO ME,
PRESIDENT'S WORDS ARE PRIORITY.
TH, THIS PERSON...
CITRON WILL EVENTUALLY BLOOM OUT BEAUTIFUL WHITE FLOWER AND FRUITS.
THAT AND THAT, ALL OF THEM!
HE WASN'T KIND BECAUSE OF ME!
WELL, LET US GO, MY LADY.
TRANSLATED
"I DON'T WANT TO TAKE CARE OF YOU ANYMORE SO GO TO SLEEP ALREADY."
WELL, IT'S PRETTY LATE NOW. PLEASE GO REST NOW.

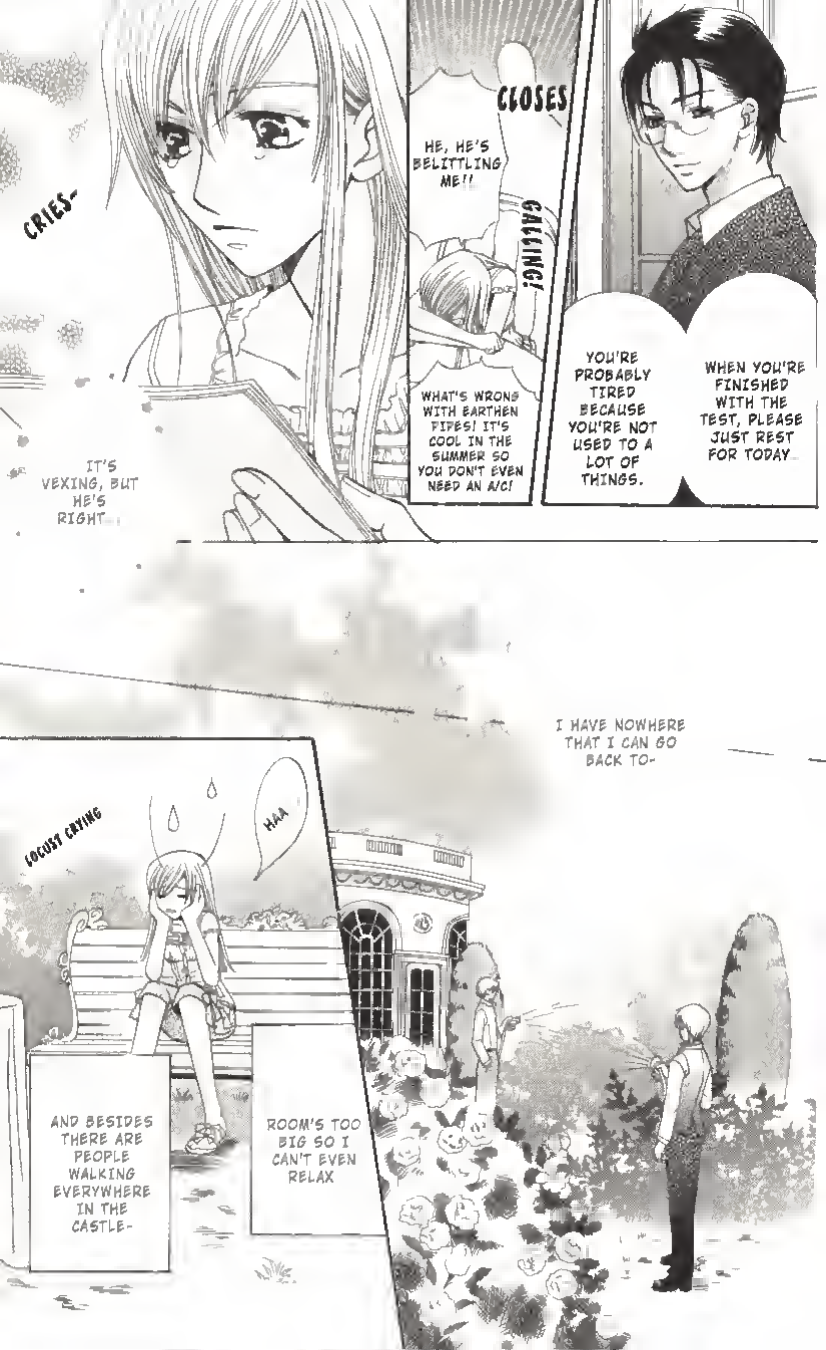

THEY WERE ALL BECAUSE I WAS GRAND-MOTHER'S GRANDCHILD
BUT...
MUMBLE MUMBLE
IT WAS ALL HOSPITALITY ON THE SURFACE!!
I WAS LITTLE TOUCHED AND THOUGHT HE WAS A GOOD PERSON...!
*MOTHER'S LOVE*MOTHER'S LESSON NUMBER 23* WAS RIGHT!!
THIS OLD WOMAN-OBSESSED GUY!!
HAVE MORE SUSPICION TOWARD A GUY WITH A GOOD LOOKING FACE THAN A GUY WITH A BAD LOOKING FACE!!

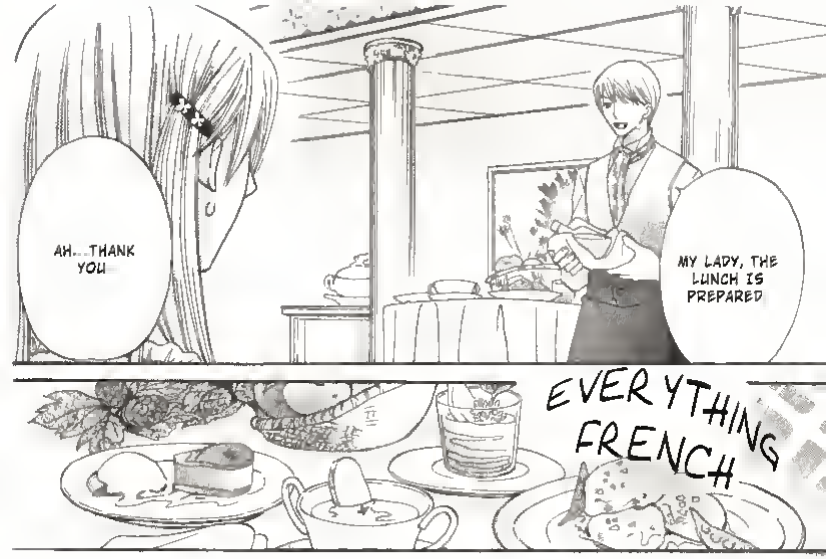
NOT AT ALL.
POURS
POURS
SORRY, HASSAKU, FOR MAKING YOU PLAY THE VILLAIN PART
IF SHE IS TO BECOME PRESIDENT'S HEIR.
HER STINGY BEHAVIOR WILL BE TROUBLESOME.
DRIES
DRIES
WHOA.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO IF YOU GET A COLD?
HEY, HASSAKU, YOUR HAIR'S STILL WET.

HERE, IT'S DONE
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
AH...PRESIDENT, THIS IS THE INFORMATION ON THE SCHOOL WHICH LADY YUZU WILL BE ATTENDING
AAH, THIS PLACE.
SIGH.
...LOOKING FROM YOUR REPORT REGARDING HER FROM THE PAST YEARS,
I SEE THAT SHE IS A LITTLE TOO OBSESSED ABOUT HER MOTHER
IT'LL BE TROUBLESOME IF SHE FOLLOWS THE SAME PATH AS HER MOTHER

I DON'T EVER WANT A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY TO ELOPE
WITH SOME WORTH-LESS MAN.
I'M CHOOSING A SUITABLE MAN FOR HER RIGHT NOW.
SO UNTIL THEN, KEEP HER AWAY FROM BAD INFLUENCES. I'M LEAVING IT TO YOU, HASSAKU.
I AM AT YOUR SERVICE.

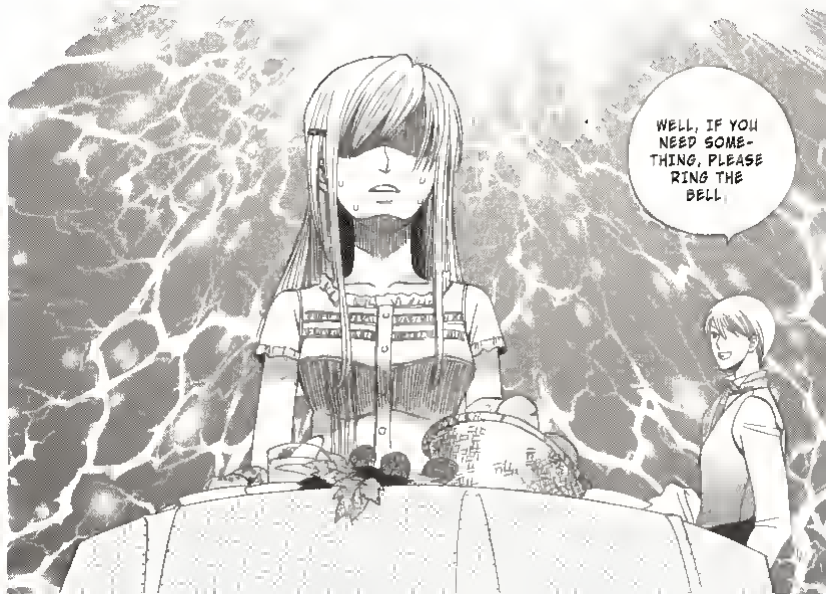
...I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE.
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
BAM!
I'M GOING HOME!
GOING BACK TO THAT PARK'S EARTHEN PIPE?
YOU MUST BE JOKING.
IT'S, IT'S NOT A JOKE-
ANYWAYS, PLEASE TAKE THIS TEST.
I HAVE ANOTHER JOB TO ATTEND TO, SO EXCUSE ME.


CRIES-
IT'S VEXING, BUT HE'S RIGHT...
HE, HE'S BELITTLING ME!!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH EARTHEN PIPES! IT'S COOL IN THE SUMMER SO YOU DON'T EVEN NEED AN A/C!
CLOSES
CALLING!
YOU'RE PROBABLY TIRED BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT USED TO A LOT OF THINGS.
WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED WITH THE TEST, PLEASE JUST REST FOR TODAY.
I HAVE NOWHERE THAT I CAN GO BACK TO-
LOCUST CRYING
HAA
AND BESIDES THERE ARE PEOPLE WALKING EVERYWHERE IN THE CASTLE-
ROOM'S TOO BIG SO I CAN'T EVEN RELAX

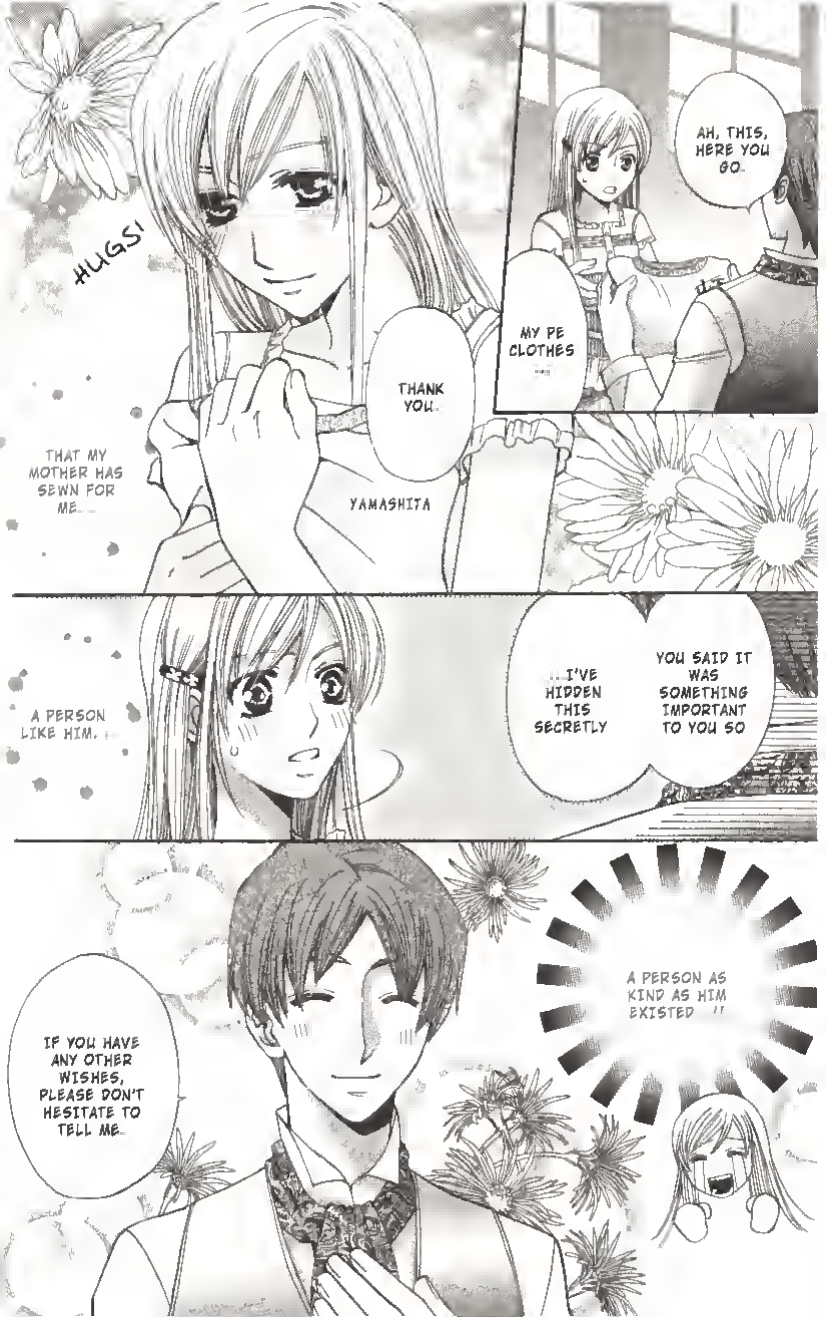


AAH!

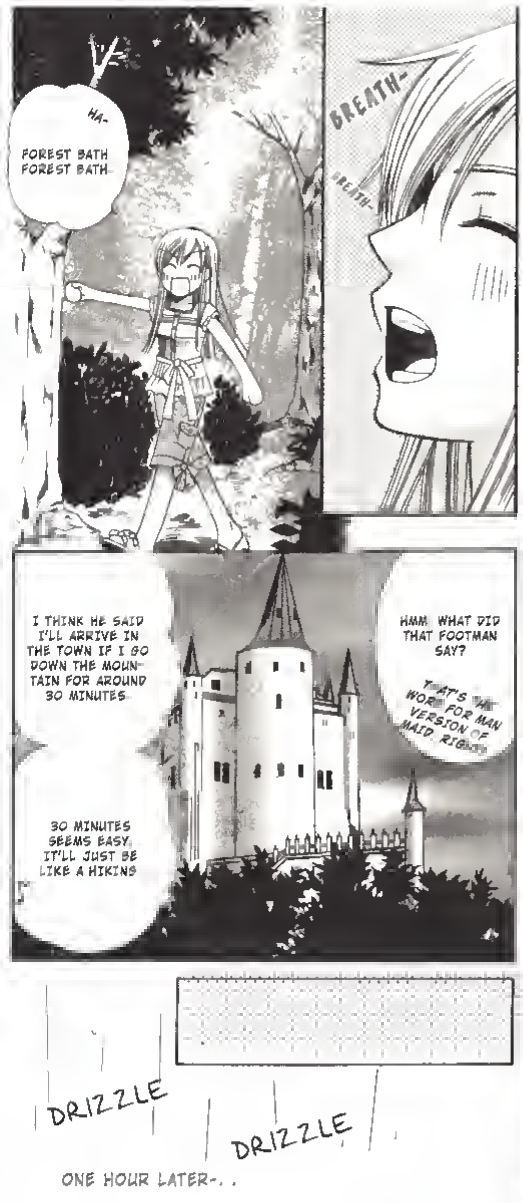
I WANT TO EAT FERMENTED SOYBEANS!!



YAY!
YAY!
FERMENTED SOYBEANS
FERMENTED SOYBEANS!!
FERMENTED SOYBEANS
納豆
MY LADY, DID YOU NOT LIKE THE LUNCH AT THE GARDEN?
!!
WHEN DID I GET HERE?
HUH!
NOT AT ALL...
YAY ?
THAT !!
I'M AT MY LIMIT!! WELL, OF COURSE I THINK IT'S LUXURIOUS THAT I CAN EAT ALL I WANT IN 3 MEALS, BUT
MY LOW-CLASS RAISED MOUTH CAN'T GET USED TO THEM
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
WHITE RICE SALMON FERMENTED SOYBEANS AND MISO SOUP
WHITE RICE SO RIGHT NOW ALL I WANT IS FERMENTED SOYBEANS!!


HUGS!
THANK YOU.
YAMASHITA
THAT MY MOTHER HAS SEWN FOR ME...
AH, THIS, HERE YOU GO.
MY PE CLOTHES
...
A PERSON LIKE HIM...
...I'VE HIDDEN THIS SECRETLY
YOU SAID IT WAS SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO YOU SO
A PERSON AS KIND AS HIM EXISTED !!
IF YOU HAVE ANY OTHER WISHES, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO TELL ME.

I GOT IT!
WHY DON'T YOU GO BUY THEM OUTSIDE WHILE I MAKE A BREACH IN THE SECURITY?
EH, REALLY!?
DEPRESSED...
UM... I DON'T THINK THAT THEY HAVE THAT IN THE KITCHEN
FERMENTED SOY-BEANS?
OF COURSE NOT...
I SHOULD GO IN THE FIRST PLACE,
BUT I HAVE SOME JOBS-
AND BESIDES, MY LADY SHOULD GO OUT AND RELAX A LITTLE...
THANK YOU!
YES, IT HAS BEEN LIKE THIS ALWAYS
I DIDN'T FEEL AT EASE AROUND HERE...


HA-
FOREST BATH FOREST BATH-
BREATH-
-BREATH-
I THINK HE SAID I'LL ARRIVE IN THE TOWN IF I GO DOWN THE MOUNTAIN FOR AROUND 30 MINUTES.
30 MINUTES SEEMS EASY. IT'LL JUST BE LIKE A HIKING
HMM. WHAT DID THAT FOOTMAN SAY?
THAT'S THE WORD FOR MAN VERSION OF MAID, RIGHT?
DRIZZLE
DRIZZLE
ONE HOUR LATER-. .

THE WORLD THAT I WAS SUDDENLY THROWN INTO WAS
GORGEOUS AND DAZZLING.
BUT AT THE SAME TIME, I FEEL ALIENATED IN THAT.

HMM... IS THIS TURNING OUT TO BE A LITTLE WEIRD.. ?
RAIN IS STARTING TO FALL TOO .
IT'S ALREADY BEEN MORE THAN 30 MINUTES, BUT NO MATTER HOW FAR I GO I'M STILL IN THE MOUNTAIN
COULD IT BE THAT I'M
LOST...
REALLY?
REALLY
*YUZU HAS REALLY SAID SOME BAD JOKE IN JAPANESE
...I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT I'D SAY IT WHEN I GET LOST, BUT...
IT WAS A COLD AND VAIN JOKE BEYOND MY IMAGINATION
DON'T JOKE ME!!
I DEFINITELY DON'T WANT TO COLLAPSE AND DIE GOING ON A FERMENTED SOYBEAN HUNT-!
WAH!
DASHES!

I SHOULD BE ABLE TO ARRIVE IN A TOWN IF I GO DOWN HERE, RIGHT?
SIGNS!
I WAS WORRIED FOR A LONG SECOND
!!
A ROAD!!
CAR ENGINE
I WONDER IF IT'S A CAR GOING TO THE CASTLE
BRAKES!
CLOSES
!?

"MOTHER'S LOVE*MOTHER'S LESSON* NUMBER 26
YOU'RE YAMASHITA YUZU-SAN, RIGHT?
RUSHES
WE DON'T HAVE TIME!
RUSHES
HURRY! THE GUARDIANS WILL NOTICE ANY SECOND!
WHAT'S WITH THESE BLACK-CLOTHED SUN-GLASSES GUYS?
MUMBLES
AT A TIME LIKE THIS, "MOTHER'S LOVE*MOTHER'S LESSON" ..
PLEASE COME WITH US.
?
BACK TO THE WALL
"MEN IN A GANG ARE THE SAME AS BEASTS."
GRRR
GRRR

GYOFU!
NUMBER 110-!!
«SFX: KICKS!?
DASHES!
WH.... FOLLOW HER!! DON'T LET HER ESCAPE!
WHAT KIND OF GIRL IS SHE!?
A DEVIL!?
RUNS!
GO AROUND THAT WAY!
WAIT!!
"TO RUN AWAY EFFICIENTLY AGAINST MEN KICK THE BALL!"
TSK THEY'RE SO PERSIS-TENT!!

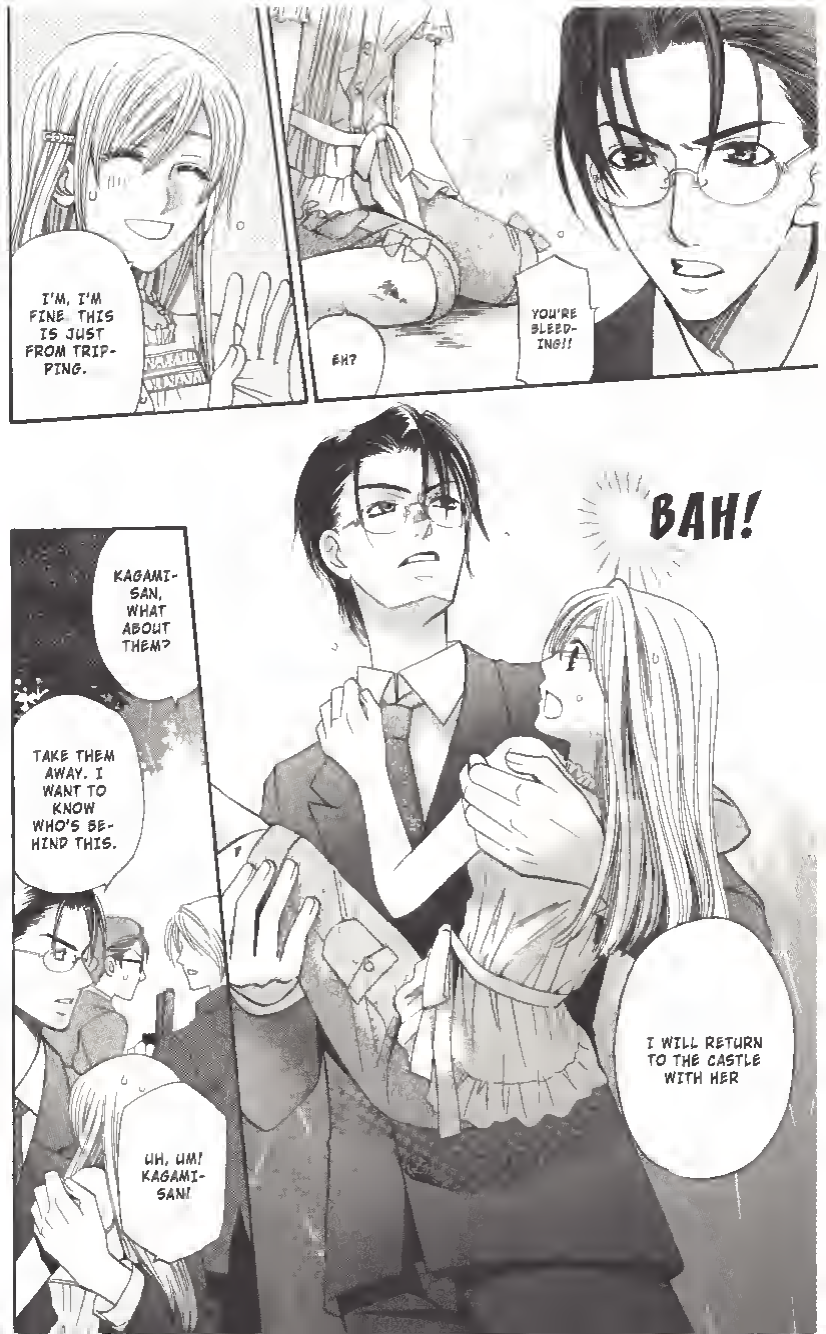
TRIPS!
WHY ARE THEY TRYING TO CAPTURE ME—
WHO ARE THOSE PEOPLE!?
<SFX: FALLS!>
OW!
あ
OH, NO..!!
STOP IT RIGHT THERE

WHO ARE YOU GUYS!?
WHY ARE YOU AFTER ME!?
YOU'RE IN OUR WAY
YOU AS THE HEIR OF SHIRAYUKI.
<SFX:PULLS!>
IF YOU COME WITH US QUIETLY, WE WON'T HURT YOU.
NO!
LET GO OF ME!!
HEY! KEEP STILL!
SOMEONE-
-OW!....

CHA!
LET GO OF OUR LADY.

YOU CLOD.
<SFX: PUNCH!>
GAHA!
THUMP!

SWA
GUARDIANS!!
ARE THE GOOD-LOOKING GROUPS WHO ARE EVERY-WHERE IN THE CASTLE...
THOSE ARE MODEL GUNS, RIGHT?
FALLS!
GUARDIANS?
THOSE PEOPLE
ARE YOU OK?
AH... KAGAMI-SAN.

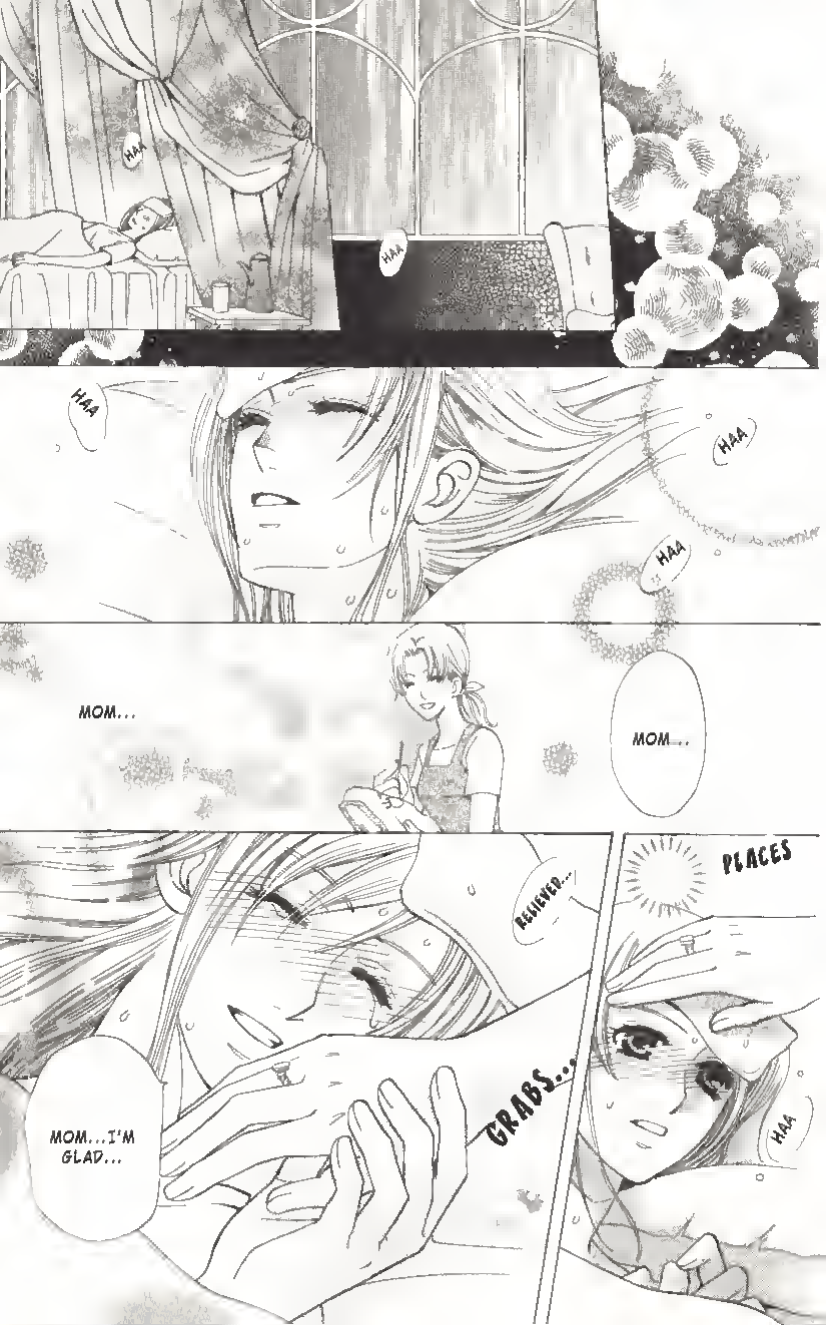

I'M, I'M FINE. THIS IS JUST FROM TRIPPING.
EH?
YOU'RE BLEEDING!!
BAH!
KAGAMI-SAN, WHAT ABOUT THEM?
TAKE THEM AWAY. I WANT TO KNOW WHO'S BEHIND THIS.
UH, UM! KAGAMI-SAN!
I WILL RETURN TO THE CASTLE WITH HER

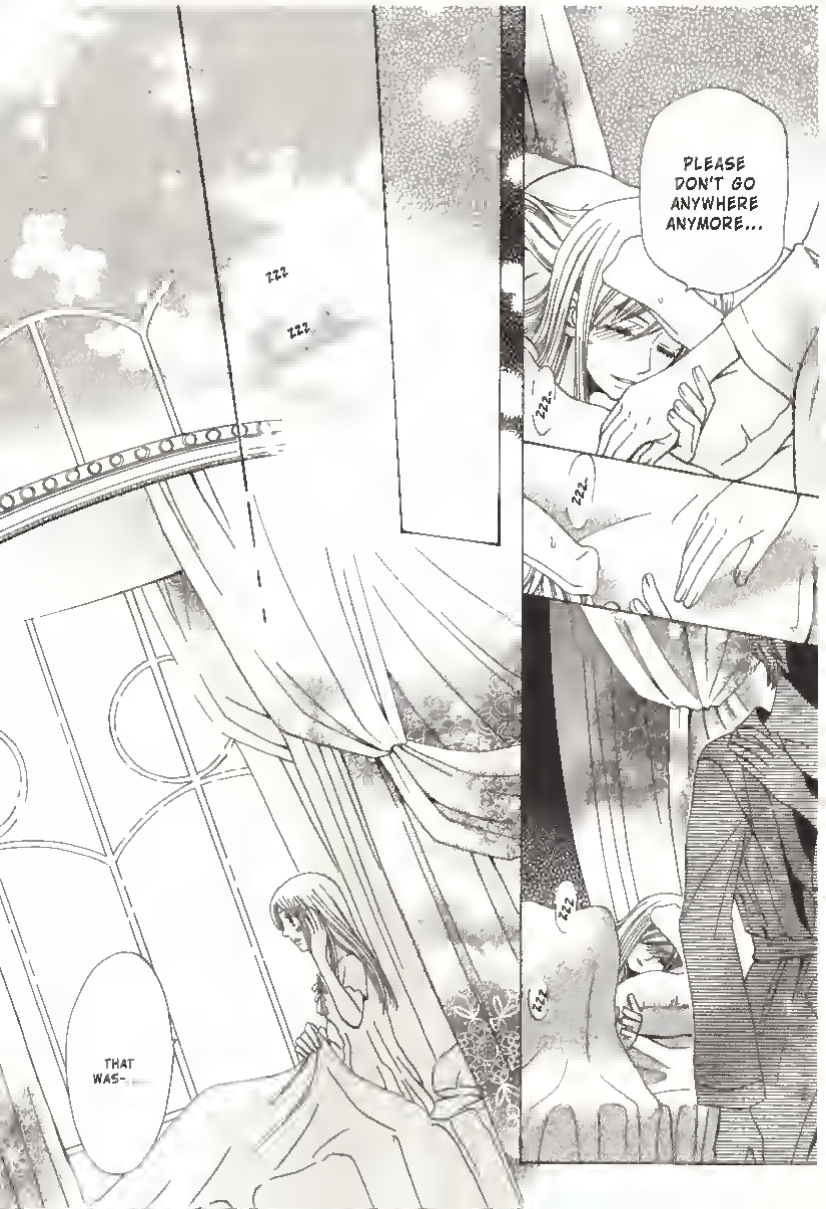
SO?
UM! I CAN WALK!
SO I..
I TOLD YOU ALREADY.
JUST BE QUIET AND LET ME CARRY YOU.
YOUR FEELINGS ARE IRRELEVANT TO ME.

BEEP BEEP!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD WALK TO THE TOWN.
100 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT
ARE YOU STUPID?
AND JUST FOR SOMETHING LIKE FERMENTED SOY-BEANS
I'M... I'M ASHAMED...
THE PERSON WHO HAD YOU GO OUTSIDE HAS DISAPPEARED
I'M SORRY...
I CAN'T BE-LIEVE YOU JUST FELL FOR IT.
HE WAS PROBABLY ONE OF THEIR PART-NERS
THAT PERSON...
BUT HE SEEMED KIND, GIVING ME MY PE CLOTHES BACK...

IT'S MY JOB
THANK YOU FOR RESCUING ME
UH, UM
IT'S BAD IF YOUR FEVER GOES UP PLEASE REST AND I'LL GET AN ICE PILLOW RIGHT NOW-
...I'LL STOP HERE WITH THE SCOLDING
AH...MY PE CLOTHES!
HE'LL... PROBABLY TAKE THEM AWAY...
GRIPS!
CLOSES...

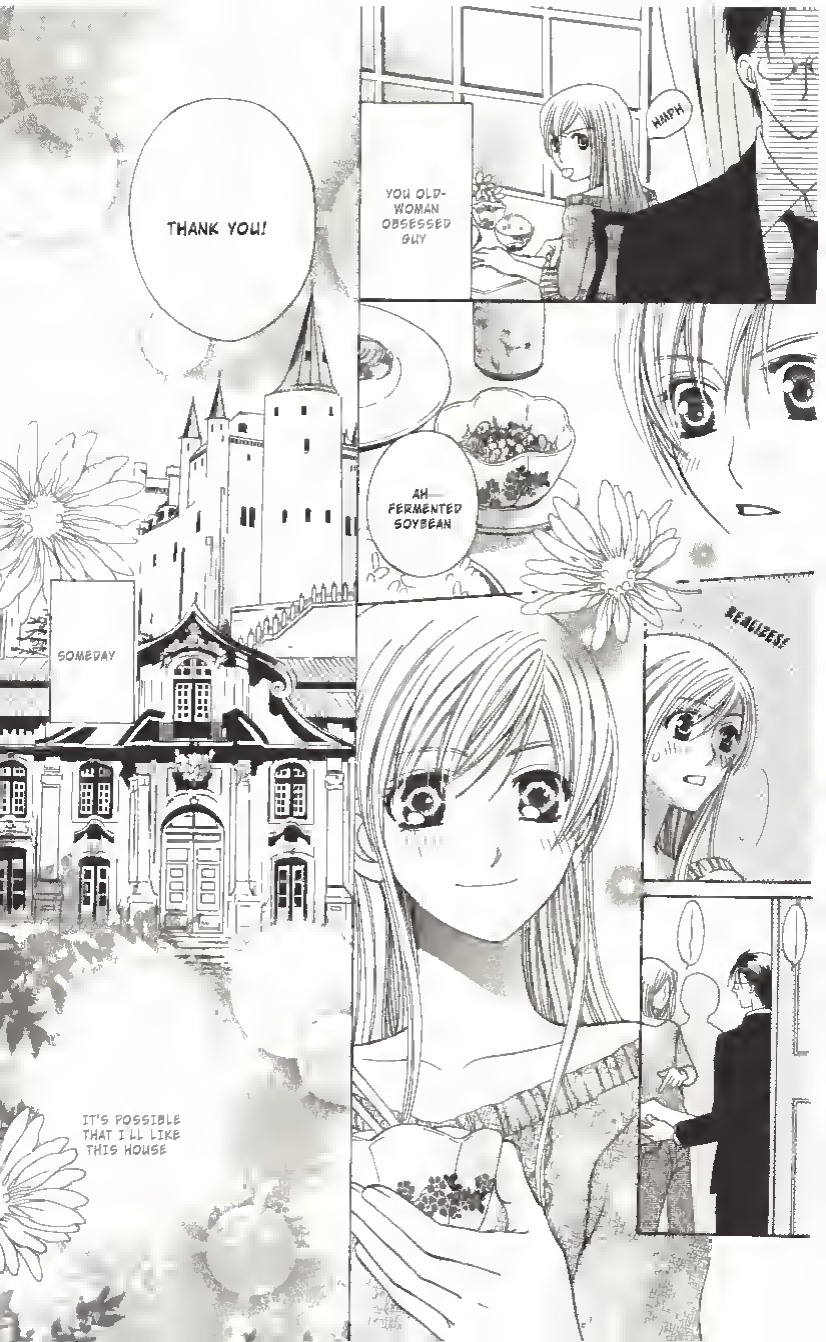
PEEKS..
...I'M GLAD...
HE OVER-LOOKED IT...?
IT SEEMS.
I CAN'T KEEP MY EYES OPEN-


HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
MOM...
MOM...
PLACES
HAA
REHEVER...
GRABS...
MOM...I'M GLAD...


PLEASE DON'T GO ANYWHERE ANYMORE...
ZZZ
ZZZ
ZZZ
ZZZ
ZZZ
ZZZ
THAT WAS-

HA, HAA... I'M SORRY
SERIOUSLY, GETTING A FEVER JUST FROM A LITTLE RAIN POURED OVER YOU,
MODERN CHILDREN ARE SO WEAK.
GOOD MORNING, YUZU!
DOES GRANDMA LOOK A LITTLE TIRED...?
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT MY FACE FOR?
AH, NO. IT'S JUST THAT YOU HAD DARK CIRCLES UNDER YOUR EYES.
GGARES!
SHO-CKED
WHAT!?
MIRROR
THAT SHE WAS THE ONE WHO WAS WITH ME LAST NIGHT-
COULD IT BE...

HUH?
AH
THE TRANSFER TO SETSUEI HIGH SCHOOL HAS BEEN DECIDED
UNDERSTOOD
SOMEONE CALL THE ESTHETICIAN!
HASSAKU! CHANGE ALL MY WORK TO THE AFTERNOON!
WALKS
WALKS
IT'S NOT TO ASK YOU IF YOU'RE OK WITH THEM
MY WORK IS TO OBEY THE COMMANDS OF THE PRESIDENT
WHY DO YOU JUST DECIDE THESE THINGS WITHOUT MY CONSENT!?
THAT'S NOT IT!
AS EXPECTED FROM SOMEONE WHO WENT INTO THE FAMOUS EXCELLED SCHOOL ON A SCHOLARSHIP
YOU TOOK THE TRANSFER TEST FEW DAYS AGO
THAT IS CORRECT
FU
I KNOW MY GRANDMOTHER IS NUMBER ONE, RIGHT?


THANK YOU!
SOMEDAY
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT I'LL LIKE THIS HOUSE
YOU OLD-WOMAN OBSESSED GUY
HMPH
AH— FERMENTED SOYBEAN
REALIZES!

I'M VERY SORRY. THE PLAN HAS FAILED.
WHAT A WEAKLING.
KAGAMI HASSAKU HIMSELF IS ON THE GUARD SO...
FORGET IT.
I CAN DRIVE OUT ONE MERE WOMAN BY MYSELF.
EPISODE*2/ THE END

究極ヴィーナス
エピソード
EPISODE*3
ultimate venus

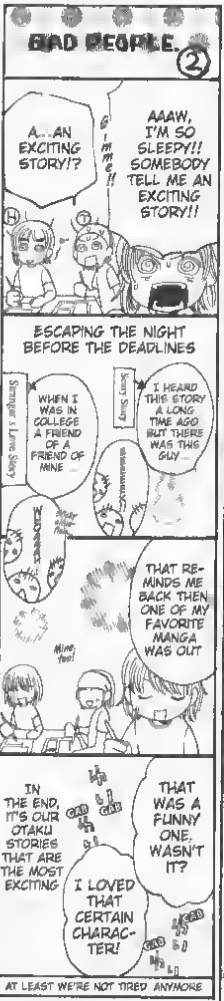
STARTING TODAY, YOU'LL BE ATTENDING GETSUEI HIGH SCHOOL, YUZU.
SHIRAYUKI
白雪
YOU MUST HOLD UP THE SHIRAYUKI NAME, SO...
...DON'T LET ANYBODY BOSS YOU AROUND, UNDERSTOOD!?

O...OKAY, I'M GOING NOW.
HAVE A SAFE TRIP.
MOM, IT'S ALREADY BEEN A MONTH SINCE I CAME TO GRANDMA'S CASTLE.

I HOPED I'D GET SORT OF USED TO IT, BUT I'VE STEPPED INTO A WHOLE DIFFERENT WORLD AND STILL CAN'T GET THE HANG OF IT.
BESIDES ALL THE FOOT-MEN* IN THE CASTLE...
...THERE ARE MYSTERIOUS, BEAUTIFUL GUYS WHO CALL THEM-SELVES "GUARDIANS."
* Male servants who work under the butlers and wear special uniforms
THEY SEEM TO BE GRANDMA'S PERSONAL BODY-GUARDS...
I'M MANABU ONSHU, WITH THE GUARDIANS' ESCORT UNIT.
AND I'M HOSUKE HIYUUGA, WITH THE HQ.
ゴオオオ
GENERAL COMMANDING OFFICER KAGAMI WILL BE AWAY FROM HIS SHIRAYUKI DUTIES FOR A WHILE, SO.
—WE'LL BE ESCORTING YOU, YOUNG LADY OF THE HOUSE.
HERE'S A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL COMMAND-ING OFFI-CER.
OKAY, THANKS..
General Commanding Officer?

DON'T FORGET THAT STAINING THE SHIRAYUKI NAME...
IT WAS SELFISH OF HIM TO DECIDE MY SCHOOL FOR ME, BUT...
...MY MOM DREAMED OF ME GOING TO HIGH SCHOOL, SO I SHOULD BE THANKFUL.
...IS THE SAME AS STAINING MITSUKO-SAMA AND YOUR MOTHER.
CLAP
プレッシャー
PRESSURE
HEAVY... SO HEAVY!!
CRUSH
AS THE NUMBER ONE CANDIDATE FOR THE SHIRAYUKI HEIR, YOU'LL ATTRACT A LOT OF ATTENTION, YOUNG MISTRESS.
GETSUEI HIGH IS FAMOUS FOR BEING A SCHOOL WHERE DAUGHTERS OF HIGH-CLASS FAMILIES ATTEND.

I WONDER..
...IF I'LL EVER GET USED TO THIS...
DRIIING
DODOONG
I MUST SAY, IT'S AN HONOR RECEIVING THE GRAND-DAUGHTER OF MITSUKO-SAN.
Aaah Mitsuko-san
ELITE A?
IN THE ELITE A CLASS I WILL GUIDE YOU TO, THERE'S NO STUDENT AS SUITABLE AS YOU.
CLIK
CLIK
THE ELITE A CLASS IS FOR EXCEPTION-ALLY GIFTED STUDENTS.
IT WAS THE MOST NATURAL SELECTION FOR YOU, CONSIDERING YOUR SCORE ON THE ENTRANCE EXAM.
ELITE A
PANTIES
Aaaah
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE THE NEW FRIEND JOINING YOU IN CLASS, TODAY.
Elite A!! Sounds awfully special
I'D BE HAPPY IN THE REGULAR CLASS...


BAD PEOPLE. 2
A...AN EXCITING STORY!?
G'mee!!
AAAW, I'M SO SLEEPY!! SOMEBODY TELL ME AN EXCITING STORY!!
ESCAPING THE NIGHT BEFORE THE DEADLINES
Scattered Love Stories
WHEN I WAS IN COLLEGE A FRIEND OF A FRIEND OF MINE ...
Scary Story
I HEARD THIS STORY A LONG TIME AGO BUT THERE WAS THIS GUY ...
Mimi Yuri
THAT REMINDS ME BACK THEN, ONE OF MY FAVORITE MANGA WAS OUT
IN THE END, IT'S OUR OTAKU STORIES THAT ARE THE MOST EXCITING
THAT WAS A FUNNY ONE, WASN'T IT?
I LOVED THAT CERTAIN CHARACTER!
AT LEAST WE'RE NOT TIRED ANYMORE
UH...
WE ARE CELEBRITIES
GASP!
RRUMBLE
BEAM
I'M YUZU YAMASHITA. NICE TO MEET YOU.

WELCOME, YUZU YAMASHITA.
HUH!?
WEL-COME!
SO, YOU'RE YAMASHITA-SAN? WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!
WHAT'S WITH THE BIG WELCOME!?
I'M—

PART
OH, SORRY THERE, IYO-KUN
WHO...IS THIS GUY?

I'M YOUR SECOND COUSIN, IYO HAYASHIBARA.
MY MOM WAS AT YOUR DEBUT PARTY, AND SHE TOLD ME ALL ABOUT YOU.
I'd love to introduce you to your second cousin.
MY SECOND COUSIN...OH! HE MEANS THAT OLD LADY, HAYASHIBARA.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
TUG
HUH!?

I HOPE YOU'LL BE GENTLE WITH ME.
!
CHILL
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS GUY?

HE'S SMILING, BUT...
...HIS EYES ARE NOT.
WE CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR ALL ABOUT YOU.
I UNDERSTOOD IT BY LUNCHTIME.
EYES THAT JUDGE MY VALUE...
...ARE EXACTLY LIKE THE EYES OF THE GUESTS AT MY DEBUT PARTY.
THE EYES OF EVERYONE IN THIS CLASS...
CHATTER
CHATTER
YAMASHITA-SAN, WANT TO EAT LUNCH WITH US OUT ON THE GRASS?

.....
I WONDER IF HE DOESN'T LIKE ME...
AND THE EYES OF IYO HAYASHIBARA...
I WONDER HOW EVERY-ONE'S DOING ...
IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL ...
THE OLD LADY I MET AT THE PARTY WAS NICE, BUT...
WHAT IS THIS...?
IT IS YOU, YUZU-CHAN!
HUH?
YUZU-CHAN?

I WAS SO SHOCKED.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE THE HEIR TO THE SHIRAYUKI GROUP, YUZU-CHAN!
AFTER MY MOM DIED, A LOT HAPPENED.
I'M STILL ONLY A CANDIDATE FOR HEIR.
YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT, YUZU-CHAN.
SETOKA-CHAN!!
BUT, I'M SO GLAD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, SETOKA-CHAN!
YOU GO TO GETSUEI HIGH, TOO?
YEAH ...
BUT... ARE YOU GOING TO BE OKAY, YUZU-CHAN?
I'M NOT ONE OF THE ELITE A KIDS...
YEAH, SO WHAT?

IS BEING ELITE A THAT ELITIST?
SINCE YOU JUST GOT HERE, YOU PROBABLY DON'T KNOW, YUZU-CHAN.
THE ELITE A KIDS ONLY HANG OUT WITH OTHER ELITE A KIDS...
ONLY THE FORTY KIDS WHO KEEP TOP-RANKING GRADES FOR THEIR WHOLE THREE YEARS HERE CAN STAY IN THE ELITE A CLASS
GETTING IN IS DECIDED BY AN ENTRANCE EXAM, BUT THERE'S AN EXAM AT THE END OF EACH SEMESTER.
THE MEMBERS OF THE CLASS SWITCH IN AND OUT DEPENDING ON THAT, AND ALWAYS BEING AT THE TOP
THAT'S WHY THE ELITE A CLASS IS SO PROUD.
NO MATTER HOW DEEP YOUR FRIENDSHIP, IF YOU FALL OUT OF THAT CLASS THEY WON'T EVEN COME NEAR YOU.
WHOA... THAT'S WHAT I CALL A HAND-PICKED GROUP, ALRIGHT.
YEAH... SO BEING WITH A NON-ELITE A PERSON LIKE ME...
...THEY MIGHT SAY STUFF ABOUT YOU, YUZU-CHAN.

Hmph!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT. RULE #45 OF MY MOTHER'S LOVE & TEACHINGS SAYS...
...YOU DON'T BUY FRIENDS WITH MONEY, YOU CHOOSE THEM WITH YOUR HEART!
Is how it goes.
Sigh...
YUZU-CHAN, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT!
Huh?
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! THAT SEMPAI YOU ALWAYS HAD YOUR EYE ON'S HERE, TOO!
Tee hee!
WHAT!? FOR REAL!?
I'M NOT SO SURE I'LL EVER GET USED TO BEING ELITE A, BUT...
...I'M STILL HAPPY SETOKA-CHAN'S HERE!

THUD
SCHOOL JUST GOT A LOT MORE FUN!
ARE YOU OKAY?
HUH?
NAKAYAMA! IYO-SAN TOLD YOU HE WANTED ICED TEA!
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU MESSED UP HIS ORDER!
I...I'M SORRY...
OW...

YAMASHITA-SAN, DON'T WORRY YOURSELF OVER HIM.
YEAH, HE MIGHT BE ELITE A, BUT HIS FAMILY'S NOTHING TO BRAG ABOUT.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THESE GUYS ARE BULLIES, EVEN IN HIGH SCHOOL!!
WHAT'S A PERSON'S FAMILY GOT TO DO WITH HOW YOU SEE THEM?
HOW LIKE THE SHIRAYUKI HEIR TO SAY SOMETHING SO OUT THERE.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

MUST BE BECAUSE OF YOUR DIFFERENT UPBRINGING.
SMILE
IYO HAYASHIBARA ...!!
U-UM, IYO-KUN. I'LL GET YOU THAT ICED TEA.
AH ...!
IT WASN'T JUST MY IMAGINA-TION...

THERE'S NO MISTAKING IT.
THIS GUY'S MY ENEMY!!
HERE, USE THIS.
!
Y-YAMASHITA-SAN!!
YOU'VE GOT DIRT ON YOUR FACE.

WOW... HE SURE IS PRETTY.
THANKS. YOU'RE SO KIND, YAMASHITA-SAN.
S-SURE.
I'M HARUKA NAKAYAMA. PLEASE, CALL ME HARUKA-KUN.
CAN I CALL YOU "YUZU-CHAN," YAMASHITA-SAN?
SHAKE
SHAKE
UH, REALLY!?
YAY! ree!
GOSH, I'M SO HAPPY!
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN TREATED SO KINDLY IN THE ELITE A CLASS.
Feeling like a big sister
GASP!
WHY DO YOU DO WHAT THOSE GUYS TELL YOU!?
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, YOU SHOULD SAY SO!
I would!
YEAH, WELL...

IF I WERE TO JUST SAY ANY OLD THING, IT'D DO NO GOOD.
What was that? HUH?
THAT'S PRETTY CONFIDENT OF HIM TO SAY...
SINCE I'M AT THE TOP OF THE CLASS, THEY'RE JUST JEALOUS.
ALL THEY'VE GOT GOING FOR THEM IS THEIR PEDIGREE.
TOP OF THE CLASS, HUH?
HE'S DIFFERENT THAN I FIRST THOUGHT. HE'S PRETTY LEVEL HEADED.
OH, BY THE WAY, YUZU-CHAN. YOU CAN HAVE THIS.
As thanks for coming back to check on me
OH! THANKS!

EVERY-ONE, TAKE THEIR SEATS.
1 – Elite A
CHATTER
CHATTER
STILL GOT A LITTLE BIT LEFT.
Gulp! Gulp!
Okay.
BEFORE WE BEGIN FIFTH PERIOD...
...I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE TO YOU ONE MORE TRANSFER STUDENT
Due to circum-stances, he was late in coming.
A TRANSFER STUDENT? BESIDES ME?
MY NAME IS HASSAKU KAGAMI. NICE TO MEET YOU.

KAGAMI-KUN IS ACTUALLY A THIRD-YEAR, BUT...
...DUE TO ILLNESS, HE MISSED A LOT OF SCHOOL AND HAD TO START HERE AS A FIRST-YEAR.
WHAT'S KAGAMI-SAN DOING HERE!?
HACK!
COUGH!
ACTUALLY, WHAT'S WITH ALL MY SUDDEN BAD LUCK!?
PFFT
SINCE MY BODY'S SO WEAK, I MIGHT BE SOME TROUBLE FOR YOU ALL, BUT...
...STILL, BEST REGARDS.

AND HE'S GOTTA DO THAT INNOCENT AND HELPLESS ACT?
OMIGOOOOD!!
He's wonderful!
So adult-looking!
R... REALLY ...?
ANYWAY, THERE'S NOT MUCH AGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 21 AND 18.
THE PRESIDENT'S PUT YOU IN MY CARE.
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN LEAVE YOU PREY TO ALL THOSE HIGH SCHOOLERS.
YOU HAVE MORE ENEMIES THAN YOU KNOW

I'M SURE YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN ABOUT THAT NEAR-KIDNAPPING INCIDENT.
YEAH.
WITH YOUR SUDDEN APPEARANCE AS THE NUMBER ONE CANDIDATE FOR HEIR..
...YOUR OWN FAMILY MEMBERS HAVE BEEN KICKED OUT OF LINE.
THERE ARE AUTHORITIES THAT OPPOSE THE PRESIDENT'S DICTATORSHIP..
...AND RIVAL COMPANIES CONSPIRING.
I'M GOING UNDERCOVER TO GATHER INFORMATION AND ACT AS YOUR BODY-GUARD
I'D LIKE YOU TO PRETEND WE'VE NEVER MET.
JUST TO BE SURE I'LL BE COMMUTING TO SCHOOL FROM AN APARTMENT I RENTED NEAR CAMPUS
I... SEE.
SLAP
WITH THESE ORGANIZATIONS GROWING, SHIRAYUKI DOESN'T STAND A CHANCE.

ONE MORE THING...
HOPING FOR A NORMAL HIGH SCHOOL LIFE...
..WAS FUTILE...
PLEASE BEWARE OF IYO HAYASHI-BARA.
UNTIL YOU ARRIVED, HE WAS THE NUMBER ONE CANDIDATE FOR HEIR.
HIM...?

IF YOU CORNER HER, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET AWAY EASY.
YOU CAN MAKE HER BLEED A LITTLE, TOO.
I CAN'T DO THAT—
SLAP
JUST LISTEN TO WHAT I SAY.
YUZU YAMASHITA... WON'T BE A PROBLEM FOR US.
I'M SORRY...

CAN I PLEASE HAVE EVERYONE'S ATTENTION?
REGARDING THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL ON THE FIFTH OF NEXT MONTH...
...WE HAVE TO FORM A COMMITTEE FOR IT.
OOH, A SCHOOL FESTIVAL? SOUNDS FUN!
CAT
CAT
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO BE ON THAT.
YEAH, ME NEITHER...
WHY NOT HAVE NAKAYAMA DO IT?

OKAY, NAKAYAMA WILL BE THE COMMITTEE--
YEAH, NAKAYAMA'S SMART. HE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE TO GO TO JUKU* AFTER SCHOOL.
THAT'S RIGHT. NAKAYAMA COULD PULL IT OFF ALL BY HIMSELF.
WAIT!
*See translator's
I WANT TO DO IT, TOO!
Sheesh!
Why's this girl always gotta volunteer herself for trouble?!

YUZU-CHAN...I HEARD SOMETHING SCARY ABOUT THAT...
JUST LIKE YOU ARE FOR YOUR CLASS, SETOKA-CHAN. LET'S GIVE IT 100%!
.....
WHAT!?
YUZU-CHAN, YOU'RE ON THE PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR THE ELITE A CLASS!?
ELITE A STUDENTS DON'T REALLY PUT THEIR HEART AND SOUL INTO THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL, BUT...
...SINCE THEY HAVE TO TAKE TOP PRIZE FOR WHATEVER THEY ENTER...
...THEY BLAME EVERYTHING THAT GOES WRONG ON THE COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND FORCE THEM TO DROP DOWN A CLASS.
THEN, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO GIVE IT 120%!
Se'kaaaa!!
OH, SORRY. I GOTTA GO.
OH, OKAY. SEE YOU.
WE MAY BE IN DIFFERENT CLASSES, BUT I'LL BE CHEERING YOU ON, YUZU-CHAN.
THANKS!

YUZU-CHAN, COME WITH ME!
HUH? WHAT IS IT?
YOU CAN GET OUT OF YOUR POSITION AS COMMITTEE HEAD IF WE HURRY!
B-BUT WHY? I DON'T WANT TO GET OUT OF IT
IT'S JUST A TRAP TO KICK ME OUT OF THE ELITE A CLASS!
I CAN'T GET YOU MIXED UP IN IT, TOO.
HARUKA-KUN...
WE'LL HAVE TO DEAL WITH THIS, OUR-SELVES!
WE CAN'T GIVE IN TO THOSE GUYS' SCHEMES.
YUZU-CHAN ...

HUG!
WHOA! HOLD IT, HARUKA-KUN!?
BLUUUSH
THOSE GUYS...
...I HATE THEM ALL!
THEIR WORLD'S SO DIRTY ...
HARUKA-KUN...

YOU'RE THE HEIR TO THE SHIRAYUKI FORTUNE, RIGHT?
IS IT THE MONEY? THE POWER?
WHY DO YOU WANT THAT SO BADLY?
NO...
NO, THAT'S NOT IT...
THEN WHY DID YOU BECOME AN HEIR-CANDI-DATE?
WHAT'S THAT MEAN!?
YOU WERE YANKED OUT OF YOUR LIFE AND MADE A CANDIDATE WITHOUT A CHOICE?
WHY, INDEED ...?
W-WHY...?
AFTER MY MOM DIED, I MET MY GRANDMA...
ALL THIS STUFF HAPPENED, AND ALL OF A SUDDEN I WAS THIS CANDIDATE ...
HUH? W-WELL, YEAH...

I SEE... SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...
HE'S RIGHT...
AT THIS POINT, I HAVE NO DESIRE TO BE AN HEIR...
WHAT IS IT...I REALLY SHOULD BE DOING ...?

IF WE CAN USE THE STUFF IN STORAGE, WE CAN SAVE OUR MONEY FOR OTHER THINGS.
SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN.
BEFORE WE DECIDE ON WHAT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL, LET'S GET OUR BUDGET TOGETHER AND RESEARCH OUR CHOICES.

I HAVE AN IDEA! HOW ABOUT AFTERWARD, WE SEE WHAT KINDS OF STORES WE CAN WORK WITH THAT ARE IN TOWN?
OH, THAT'S A GOOD IDEA!
GREAT! I'LL GO GET MY STUFF!
OKAY! I HAVE TO GIVE THIS SCHOOL FESTIVAL MY ALL!
TMP
TMP
TMP
I DON'T REALLY CARE IF I'M KICKED OUT OF THE ELITE A CLASS, BUT I DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN TO HARUKA-KUN, TOO...
MURMUR
GETTING KICKED OUT OF THE ELITE A CLASS MUST SUCK...
THEN HOW ABOUT YOU QUIT GETTING INVOLVED IN THINGS THAT COULD CAUSE THAT?

CLATTER
Hah.
WHA...!? DON'T SNEAK UP ON ME!
I'M YOUR GUARDIAN, OF COURSE I HAVE TO MOVE LIKE THAT.
Kagami-sannnnn!
TMP
Walk home with uuuuu!
Hasaku-samaaaa!!
Where'd you goooooo?
Hasaku-samaaaa!!
UH-HUH.
TO BE HONEST, I DID NOT FORESEE THIS.
WHAT'RE YOU TALK-ING ABOUT? I'M SURE YOU WERE JUST AS POPULAR IN YOUR HIGH SCHOOL!
UGH, HE MAKES ME SO MAD!!
Eeeergh!!
Rwgh!!
NO... WELL...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER BEEN A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT.

I WANTED TO HELP MITSUKO-SAMA RIGHT AWAY, SO..
...I PRACTICALLY SKIPPED ALL THE GRADES AND JUST GRADUATED FROM AN AMERICAN COLLEGE.
ALL FOR MY GRANDMA..? WHY WOULD HE DO THAT?
Has-saku-sa-
Aaahn!
maaaa!
WELL, I'M GLAD YOU GET ANOTHER SHOT AT HIGH SCHOOL LIFE!
THESE GIRLS ARE INTERRUPTING MY WORK, SO COULD YOU LEAVE?
I'LL BE ON MY WAY.
We know you're around here some-wheeeere!
Kagami-saaaa-aaan!!

I SWEAR, I'M THROUGH WITH HIM
TUMBLE
TEETER
YUZU!!
CRASH
BAM

K... KAGAMI-SA...
ARE YOU HURT?

I'M FINE. MORE IMPORT-ANTLY ...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME—!
Y-YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S HURT, KAGAMI-SAN!
I'M NOT SO HELPLESS I NEED YOU WORRYING ABOUT ME.
QUIT EXAG-GER-ATING.
NO, NOTH-ING'S MORE IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW! WE HAVE TO GET YOU TO A HOSPITAL!
'M NOT BADLY HURT. BUT, F YOU INSIST ON DOING UNNECESSARY THINGS, IT'LL MAKE MORE ORK FOR ME.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO THINK IT WAS YOUR FAULT, THEN GO HOME FOR TODAY.
IT'S MY FAULT YOU WERE HURT, KAGAMI-SAN!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH WORRYING ABOUT YOU!?

...
DASH
...OKAY...
I'M SORRY.
I KNEW IT. THIS WAS CUT WITH A BLADE...
TCH...
FALL
I WAS CARE-LESS—!
STRAIN
SO, SHE'S NOT EVEN SAFE HERE?

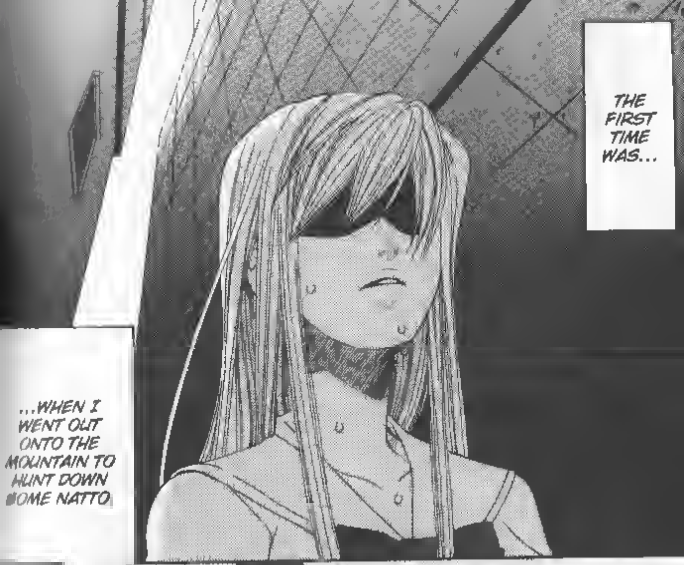
WHAT'S KAGAMI-SAN'S PROBLEM!? THAT IDIOT!
YUZU-CHAN?
OH, HARUKA-KUN.
LET ME WORRY, AT LEAST!
WHY'S HE GOTTA TALK TO ME LIKE THAT?
HUH!? BUT WE'RE SO CLOSE, IT WON'T TAKE US ANY TIME!
B-BUT...
OH, THAT REMINDS ME. I HAVE TO GO HOME FOR TO-DAY.
N-NO. NOTHING REALLY ...
I GOT MY BAG, BUT... DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

DON'T WORRY!! I'LL SHOW YOU THE WAY, AND YOU'LL BE BACK IN HALF AN HOUR, PROMISE!
THERE'S THIS SHOP I REALLY WANNA SHOW YOU.
OKAY? YOU CAN DO THAT, RIGHT?
...OKAY.
IF IT'S JUST FOR A LITTLE...
YOUNG MISTRESS! WHERE ARE YOU?
WHAT!? KAGAMI-SAN'S HURT!?
ON-SHU?
YES, I THINK HE HIT HIS HEAD, SO PLEASE TAKE HIM TO THE HOSPITAL FOR ME.
RRRR.
CRASH!

I'M GOING INTO TOWN WITH A FRIEND FOR A WHILE.
I'LL BE BACK IN HALF AN HOUR.
BEEP
WHA—!?
YUZU-CHAN, YOU DONE?
YEP.
COOL, THEN LET'S GET GOING.
YUZU-CHAN, OVER HERE!
CHATTER
CHATTER
HARUKA-KUN, SLOW DOWN!
HUFF
HUFF
BUMP
OH, I'M SORRY.
HARUKA-KUN?
THIS WAY!
THROUGH THIS ALLEY IS A REALLY COOL STORE.

STEP
!?
HUH...? I WONDER IF HE KNOWS HE LOST ME...
HUH...SO YOU'RE THE SHIRAYUKI GROUP GRANDDAUGHTER?
I WONDER HOW MUCH YOUR GRANNY WILL PAY FOR YOU.
EPISODE * 3 END

究極ヴィーナス
EPISODE*4
ultimate venus



Hassaku Kagami (age 21)

Birthday: June 17th

Blood Type: AB

Hobbies: Strategy, all martial arts

Has 8/8 vision; At his job, since he's taken lightly for being so young, he wears glasses to seem older

It's hard to write everything about his background

Heh Heh
AND NOW, AGAIN!?
WHAAAAA? SHIRAYUKIIII? WHAT IS THAT?
This some new way of hitting on girls?
DUWAAAAAH?
YUZU YAMASHITA-CHAN, OLD GRANNY SHIRAYUKI WON'T BE STINGY ON THE RANSOM FOR YOUR PRECIOUS LITTLE SELF.
YOUR FACE IS A DEAD GIVE-AWAY WHEN YOU LIE.
CLIK
RULE #109 OF MY MOTHER'S LOVE & TEACHINGS ...
PULL
BE QUIET AND GET OVER HERE!

THWACK
ALWAYS HAVE A WAY OUT.
That's the problem.
THAT DOES IT.
WAAH!!
YANK
OW!!
HERE'S MY CHANCE!
SLAP

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE MESSING WITH!?
D-DUDE.
HE TOLD US TO JUST SCARE HER A LITTLE.
!?
THAT WAS SOME STUNT...
WHAT'S THAT MEAN!?
SOMEONE HIRED THEM TO SCARE ME?
YOU IDIOT, IF THIS GIRL'S THE DAUGHTER OF THE SHIRAYUKI FAMILY, WE'D MAKE EVEN BIGGER BUCKS KIDNAPPING HER OURSELVES

SHOVE
WE'RE NOT GONNA KILL YOU. WE'LL JUST SEND OFF ONE OF YOUR FINGERS.
!!
KAGAMI-SA-!!
BASH

WH-WHO ARE YOU!?
....WHA?
WHO'S THIS!?
He's way suspicious!
"YOE!"
CURRENT OBSESSIONS
I just keep writing all over this manga, don't I? Currently, △o I'm challenging myself with reading a lot of Western books.
Alice
Western books sure are expensive...
When I was a student, I was no good at English! I had very little confidence, so I read books at low-levels to improve, and eventually that lack of confidence went away. To be quite honest, I'm very happy with myself.
My dream is to one day read the sci-fi novel of a favorite author of mine who hasn't been translated yet...!!
Though it seems that'll take quite some time. △o

WATCH OUT!!
STOE!
THAT'S A GETSUEI SCHOOL UNIFORM ...
THUD
OOF!
H-HEY, LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
SHUT UP! YOU THINK I'M RUNNING OFF WITH MY TAIL BETWEEN MY LEGS!?

CRUNCH
SLICE
!!
GE-HAAH!!
CLACK
TUG
F-FINE...!
Let's get outta here!
WE'LL LEAVE!

TUG
U-UM..
THANKS FOR SAVING ME.
DASH
HE LEFT...
WHY!?
OR, HE RAN AWAY!?
HEY! WAIT!

IT'S... A NETSUKE*?
!
IT WAS ATTACHED TO THE CELL PHONE THAT GUY DROPPED...
*See translator's notes

...WHY'D HE RUN AWAY?
IT LOOKS LIKE HE WAS A STUDENT AT GETSUEI, BUT...
WHO WAS THAT?

HARUKA-KUN
YUZU-CHAAAN!
I WAS SCARED FOR A MINUTE, WHEN I SAW YOU WEREN'T WITH ME!

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
UH... YEAH, ACTUALLY.
I GOT SURROUNDED BY SOME THUGS AND THEN SAVED BY SOME BIKER PASSING BY..
I'M SO SORRY. IT'S BECAUSE I LEFT YOU ALL BY YOURSELF
BESIDES...
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, HARUKA-KUN!
STEP
PLEASE BEWARE OF IYO HAYASHIBARA.
COULD IT BE...
IT SOUNDED LIKE THEY'D BEEN HIRED BY SOMEONE.
HUFF
HUFF
I'VE FOUND MISS YUZU, OFFICER.
ONSHU-SAN!!

HERE WE ARE.
UH-OH...HE MUST BE FURIOUS...
HE TOLD ME TO GO STRAIGHT HOME.
KAGAMI-SAN'S WAITING ON THE SECOND FLOOR TERRACE.
I PUT IN SEVEN STITCHES, SO PLEASE TAKE IT EASY FOR A WHILE...
I ALSO ADVISE YOU GET A THOROUGH EXAMINATION DONE AT THE HOSPITAL.
!!
HIS INJURY FROM WHEN HE PROTECTED ME IN THE STOREROOM!!

I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!!
KA-GAMI-SAN!
I'M SO SORRY, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE HURT SO BADLY!
LET'S GET YOU TO THE HOSPITAL RIGHT NO—
NO MATTER WHAT I SAY, IT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT I LEFT KAGAMI-SAN BACK IN THAT STORE-ROOM!!
YANK
AFTER I TOLD YOU TO BE CAREFUL, YOU WANDERED OFF AROUND TOWN WITHOUT YOUR BODY-GUARDS...!?
THAT DOESN'T MATTER!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND YOUR POSITION AS THE SHIRAYUKI HEIR CANDIDATE, DO YOU!?
B-BUT...!
I WASN'T GOING TO TELL YOU THIS, BUT ...
...SINCE YOU HAVE NO SENSE OF CAUTION, I HAVE NO CHOICE.
THAT STOREROOM SHELF COLLAPSED BECAUSE SOMEBODY WEAKENED THE ROPE HOLDING IT UP.
GIGI
YOU'RE NO LONGER THE PERSON YOU USED TO BE.
YOU'RE THE GRAND-DAUGHTER OF MITSUKO-SAMA.
THE NUMBER ONE CANDIDATE IN LINE FOR THE SHIRAYUKI FORTUNE

YOUR VALUE IS NO LONGER YOURS TO DECIDE.
...I'M SORRY.
Grip
I WANT TO ARGUE, BUT I CAN'T...
I...

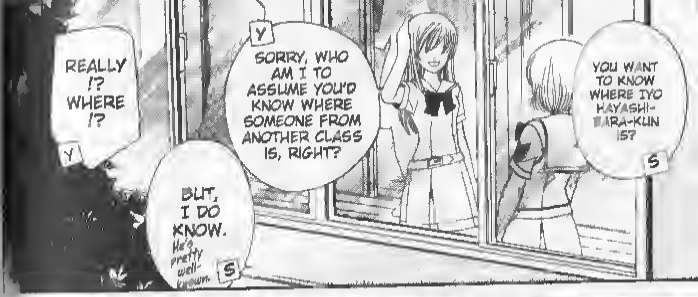
WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
CHATTER
UM, WE'RE GOING TO COLLECT THE SURVEY SHEETS PASSED OUT THIS MORNING.
SINCE THIS WILL DECIDE WHAT WE'LL BE DOING FOR THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL, I HOPE YOU ALL WROTE IN EARNEST.
CHATTER
YAMA-SHITA-SAN, HERE'S MINE.
THANKS
CHATTER
CHATTER
NOT GETTING TO LOOK AT HIS COOL AND CALM PRO-FILE, I WAS BORED TO DEATH DURING CLASS.
I WONDER WHY KAGAMI-KUN WAS OUT TODAY.
To-talk.
IT MUST BE FROM HIS INJURY YESTER-DAY..

I HAVE TO ADMIT, I'M RELIEVED I THOUGHT THE ELITE A STUDENTS WERE REALLY HAUGHTY, SO..
...I DIDN'T THINK THEY'D ACTUALLY HELP WITH THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL...
YUZU-CHAN, YOU HAVE THE SURVEYS OVER THERE?
I'M ALMOST DONE.
THAT'S JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE THE FIRST HEIR TO THE SHIRAYUKI FORTUNE, YUZU-CHAN.
HUH ...?
B-BUT...
YOU REALLY ARE NAIVE, YUZU-CHAN.
I'M SURE THAT'S NOT HOW EVERYONE IS EVERY-ONE MUST BE--
OF COURSE THEY WON'T GET ON YOUR BAD SIDE, YUZU-CHAN
...AND THOSE WHOSE PARENTS WORK UNDER SHIRA-YUKI.
THIS CLASS IS FULL OF KIDS WHO'LL HEAD UP MAJOR EN-TERPRISES, SOMEDAY...
Reason
Food
Smg
Hek
Culture Festival Survey
Ideas for what to h
Cultural Fe
1. Haunted Ho
2. Takoyaki
3. Candy
*See translator's notes

IF YOU TRUST ANYONE IN THIS WORLD, IT'S THE END OF YOU.
YOU'LL JUST GET BETRAYED.
I WONDER WHAT HARUKA-KUN'S GONE THROUGH TO SAY THAT...
BUT...
BUT FRIENDS ARE A DIFFERENT MATTER, RIGHT?
YOU DIDN'T BECOME MY FRIEND JUST BECAUSE I MIGHT BE THE SHIRAYUKI HEIR, RIGHT HARUKA-KUN?

THANK GOOD-NESS..
NAH
OF COURSE NOT
WELL, I'LL GO GET THE REST OF THE SURVEYS TOGETHER.
OKAY
TAKE CARE.
DOOOONG
DOOOONG

CHAPTER
CHAPTER
Toic
Iyo Hashibara
Kouichi
Yuichiro
Saeka
SCREEN
Ryuichi
Kaori
Shiori
Ai
Teko
Yuu
Ko
Wil
Kimiko
Suguru
THERE, THAT SHOULD BE ALL OF THEM.
EXCEPT FOR HIM.
I DON'T KNOW MY WAY AROUND THE SCHOOL THAT WELL, YET...
I WONDER WHERE HE WENT ...
I'D PREFER TO STAY AWAY FROM HIM. BUT I GUESS I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE ..
SAD
OH, YUZU-CHAN. WHAT'S UP?
HE'S NOT IN THE CLASS-ROOM.
Perfect timing!
OH, SETOKA-CHAN.


REALLY!? WHERE!?
Y
BUT, I DO KNOW.
He's pretty well-known.
S
SORRY, WHO AM I TO ASSUME YOU'D KNOW WHERE SOMEONE FROM ANOTHER CLASS IS, RIGHT?
Y
YOU WANT TO KNOW WHERE IYO HAYASHI-[illegible]ARA-KUN IS?
S

AH, YUZU-CHAN! YOU CAN GET TO THE ROOF BY GOING UP THE STAIRS, AND TAKING A RIGHT AT THE TOP!
THE ROOF? THANKS!
DASH
THIS IS ONLY A GUESS, BUT I FIGURE HE'S ON THE ROOF.
I SEE HIM FROM MY CLASSROOM SOMETIMES, UP THERE BY HIMSELF.

KLATCH
THIS MUST BE THE PLACE.
!
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG

HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HIS USUAL SELF.
HE ALMOST LOOKS... LONELY.
HEY!
JUMP
I KNEW IT. HE'S A JERK.
SIGH
I WANTED SOME QUIET TIME ALONE, BUT I GUESS THAT WON'T BE HAPPENING WITH YOU HERE.

I'LL GO AWAY ONCE I GET YOUR SURVEY!
THIS THING?
すかっ
SWIPE
すか!
SWIPE
HOLD IT—!
GRAB
ガシ
CLANG
ガシャン
GRIP
ぎゅっ
OW...!
STEP DOWN FROM YOUR POSITION AS SHIRAYUKI HEIR.

WHAT COLD EYES...
IF YOU WANT YOUR SAFETY GUARANTEED.
CHILL
REMEMBER THAT.
IF YOU DON'T STEP DOWN AS HEIR, THIS WON'T BE ALL YOU GET.
COUGH! COUGH!
COUGH!
GASP!
UH...!
I CAN'T SEE ANY EMOTION BEHIND THEM.
GIVE UP YOUR SEAT AS HEIR

...
NEVER!
RULE #11 OF MY MOTHER'S LOVE & TEACHINGS: IF A WOMAN BENDS TO THREATS, SHE'LL BE BROKEN.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO RESORT TO COWARDLY THREATS, THERE'S NO WAY I'M STEPPING DOWN!!
!
I'M TAKING BACK MY SURVEY, AND THAT'S FINAL!

!?
THAT NETSUKE ...!
FLAP
OOF!
THAT'S ALL THE BUSINESS YOU HAVE WITH ME, RIGHT?
CLACK

IT CAN'T BE..
IT CAN'T BE... CAN IT?
I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO STAY AWAY FROM HIM.
KAGAMI-SAN..
I REALLY CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF YOU FOR A SECOND

HE'S MY CLASSMATE, SO IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO COMPLETELY AVOID HIM.
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THE SAME LECTURE ALL OVER AGAIN.
GRAB
I'M UPSET ENOUGH.
AND ABOUT THAT HARUKA NAKAYAMA.
HE WAS NEARBY WHEN YOU WERE ATTACKED, WASN'T HE?
HARUKA-KUN'S—
WE CAN'T COMPLETELY CROSS HIM OFF OUR LIST.
WHETHER SOMEONE'S A FRIEND OR NOT, YOU CAN'T LET DOWN YOUR GUARD.

IF YOU TRUST ANYONE IN THIS WORLD, IT'S THE END OF YOU.
WHY'S EVERYONE SAYING THE SAME THING!?
SO WHAT, I'M SUPPOSED TO LIVE MY LIFE NEVER TRUSTING ANYONE!?
HOW DARE YOU ...!?
FLASH
IF I DID THAT, I'D BE COMPLETELY ALONE!!
I DON'T WANT THAT!!
.....!
LIFT

REMEMBER, I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO WILL NEVER BETRAY YOU.
YOU CAN TRUST ME.
I WILL PROTECT YOU.

KAGAMI-SAN...?
THUMP
THUMP
SLAP
LET ME GO!!
IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO YOU, MITSUKO-SAMA WOULD BE UNHAPPY.
.....
THIS IS NO SURPRISE... I ALREADY KNEW HOW HE IS.
IN THE END, I REALLY ONLY AM MY GRANDMA'S GRANDDAUGHTER
IT'S ALL BECAUSE I'M THE HEIR CANDIDATE TO THE SHIRAYUKI FORTUNE, ISN'T IT!?

I ONLY WANT PEOPLE AROUND ME WHO SEE ME AS I AM!!
BUT I'M...
...JUST YUZU YAMASHITA!
CLICK
SLAM
DASH
YOU'RE STILL AS BIG A CRYBABY AS YOU WERE ALL THOSE YEARS AGO...

HOW WAS SCHOOL TODAY, YUZU?
OH.. UH, IT WAS GOOD.
ALL I WANT TO DO IS PROTECT YOU...
...SO WHY DOES IT ALWAYS TURN OUT THIS WAY?

I'VE MADE FRIENDS.
YOU HAVE TO LISTEN CAREFULLY TO WHAT HASSAKU KAGAMI TELLS YOU.
I SEE...
HUH ...?
THE SAME GOES FOR THE OTHER ESCORTS.
BUT, HE'S DIFFERENT.
HE WOULD RISK HIS OWN LIFE TO PROTECT US.
WHY WOULD HE DO THAT...?
MY GRANDMA IS IMPORTANT TO HIM, BUT...
IN THE SIX YEARS SINCE I MET HIM...HE'S ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT.

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE THAT'S THE ONLY WAY HE CAN AFFIRM HIS EXISTENCE.
WHAT'S THAT MEAN?
WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS HE REALLY?
KAGAMI-SAN...
IF I GOT CLOSER TO HIM...
...WOULD I FIND OUT?

HERE ARE THE RESULTS FROM THE SURVEY.
WITH AN OVERWHELMING VOTE IN FROM THE GIRLS, THE CONTRIBUTION THE ELITE A CLASS WILL MAKE...
...IS A BUTLER CAFÉ.
EEEEEEK!!
CHATTER
THE GIRLS WILL WORK THE KITCHEN, WHILE THE GUYS SERVE AS BUTLERS.
Nobody asked you.
-Oh, really?
SWEET! WITH HASSAKU-SAMA AND IYO-KUN IN OUR CLASS, IT'LL BE A HIT!

THERE HE GOES AGAIN, BEING MOBBED BY THE GIRLS.
TCH!
I don't get it
FALL
Huh?
YEAH?
YOU'LL BE THE TALK OF THE SCHOOL IN YOUR BUTLER UNIFORM! I KNOW IT!!
WE'LL PICK OUT YOUR CLOTHES FOR YOU, HASSAKU-KUN
GIDDY
GIDDY
YES! NOW I'M REALLY IN THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL MOOD!!
IYO HAYASHIBARA...?

YUZU-CHAN, WHY'RE YOU STARING AT IYO-KUN?
HUH!? NO, UH...
I WAS JUST THINKING...I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT IYO HAYASHI-BARA-KUN...
.....!
THAT REMINDS ME! AFTER SCHOOL...
. YOU CAN'T FORGET TO TELL THE STUDENT COUNCIL WHAT WE'LL BE HOLDING AT THE FESTIVAL.
OH YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT!
I hope they say okay to us having butlers in the school..
GAGAGAGA
A-AHO!

SINCE WE'LL BE HOLDING A CAFÉ, WE NEED TO OFFER LIGHT MEALS, TOO...
NAO
ぱ!
...I WONDER IF THEY CAN EVEN COOK...
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
BUT...AT GETSUEI HIGH, THERE ARE SO MANY SPOILED SONS AND DAUGHTERS...
MUMBLE
WELL, I WORKED PART-TIME AT AN EATERY WITH MY MOM.
I'D BETTER GO ASK HARUKA-KUN FOR HIS OPINI--

WHA..?
LMP

WH... WHAT HAP-PENED...?
!!
カバッ
JUMP
GASP
MY HEAD HURTS...
WAIT A... WHERE AM I!?
AN ABAN-DONED BUILD-ING?
Mmm! Mmm!!
I REMEMBER LEAVING THE BATHROOM, AND THEN...
COLLAPSE
DID SOMEBODY DRUG ME!?
I know what this is!
I'VE BEEN KIDNAPPED !!
NN...

THIS IS ALL THAT EVER HAPPENS TO ME SINCE COMING TO MY GRANDMA'S HOUSE!!
CLIK
CLIK
CLIK
!
WHO'S THAT!?
KLATCH
カリ
チャ
WHAT'RE THEY GONNA DO WITH ME?
YUZU-SAMA!!
KAGAMI-SAN!!

I'M GLAD YOU'RE NOT HURT.
Phew!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
WHEN I SAW YOUR TRACKING DEVICE WAS BROKEN, I DIDN'T WASTE A SECOND.
SO, WHEN THIS GUY CAME AND TOLD ME...
...TO FOLLOW HIM IF I WANTED TO SAVE YOU...
B-BUT,.. THIS MIGHT BE A TRAP...
KAGAMI-SAN, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TOLD ME NEVER TO TRUST ANYONE, BUT—
HUG
Sigh..

I DON'T CARE IF IT'S A TRAP...
IF IT MEANS REACHING YOU, I'LL CROSS THAT BRIDGE.
MAYBE KAGAMI-SAN...
...WILL SAY THIS IS ALSO JUST A PART OF HIS JOB.

THANK YOU... KAGAMI-SAN...
...EVEN IF IT IS...
BUT...
THAT'S ENOUGH.
IF YOU DON'T GET OUT SOON, THE GUARD WILL BE BACK
I-IYO HAYASHIBARA !?

YOU SHOULD BE SAFE HERE.
GO ON HOME, NOW.
WAIT!
HE ONLY GUIDED US THIS FAR IF WE PROMISED NOT TO QUESTION HIS MOTIVES
YUZU-SAMA ...
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO KIDNAPPED ME, AREN'T YOU!? I HEARD THAT NETSUKE OF YOURS RING
IF YOU KIDNAPPED ME, THEN WHY ARE YOU SAVING ME, NOW!?
AND ANOTHER THING—
FULL
IT WAS YOU WHO SAVED ME BACK IN TOWN, WASN'T IT?
II

YANK
STEP DOWN FROM YOUR POSITION AS HEIR CANDIDATE FOR THE SHIRAYUKIS...
KIDNAPPING ME ONE SECOND, AND SAVING ME THE NEXT.. WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
MY STRENGTH... IS NOT ENOUGH TO STOP HIM, ANYMORE.
HIM ...!?